

DX LISTENING DIGEST 15-52, December 30, 2015
Incorporating REVIEW OF INTERNATIONAL BROADCASTING
edited by Glenn Hauser, <http://www.worldofradio.com>

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[also link to previous years]

NOTE: If you are a regular reader of DXLD, and a source of DX news but have not been sending it directly to us, please consider yourself obligated to do so. Thanks, Glenn

WORLD OF RADIO 1806 CONTENTS: *DX and station news about:
Albania, Australia, Bhutan, Biafra non, Bolivia, Brazil, Bulgaria,
Canada, Czechia, France, Germany, Greenland, India, Italy non, Japan,
Korea North, Kuwait, Luxembourg, MEXico, Myanmar, Netherlands non,
Nigeria, Per', Poland, Romania, USA, Yemen non

SHORTWAVE AIRINGS of WORLD OF RADIO 1806, December 31, 2015-January 6, 2016

Thu 1230	WRMI	9955
Thu 2100	WRMI	7570 [confirmed]
Fri 0200	WBCQ	9330v-CUSB [confirmed]
Fri 2130	WRMI	15770 [not aired; error?]
Fri 2130	WRMI	7570 [confirmed]
Sat 0730	HLR	7265-CUSB Hamburger Lokalradio
Sat 1530	HLR	7265-CUSB Hamburger Lokalradio
Sat 2030v	WAORCR	1860-AM
Sun 0415v	WAORCR	1860-AM [confirmed from 0410v]
Sun 0900	WRMI	5850 [confirmed]
Mon 0400v	WBCQ	5110v Area 51 [confirmed]
Mon 0430	WRMI	9955 [confirmed]
Tue 1200	WRMI	9955
Wed 1415	WRMI	9955
Wed 2200	WBCQ	7490v

Latest edition of this schedule version, including AM, FM, satellite and webcasts with hotlinks to station sites and audio, is at:
<http://www.worldofradio.com/radioskd.html> or
<http://schedule.worldofradio.org> or <http://sked.worldofradio.org>

For updates see our Anomaly Alert page:
<http://www.worldofradio.com/anomaly.html>

WORLD OF RADIO PODCASTS:

Tnx to Dr Harald Gabler and the Rhein-Main Radio Club.
<http://www.rmrc.de/index.php/rmrc-audio-plattform/podcast/glenn-hauser-wor>

ALTERNATIVE PODCASTS, tnx Stephen Cooper:
<http://shortwave.am/wor.xml>

AND ANOTHER PODCAST ALTERNATIVE, tnx to Keith Weston:
<http://feeds.feedburner.com/GlennHausersWorldOfRadio>

Also via [but still not back in service]:
<http://tunein.com/radio/World-of-Radio-p198/>

OUR ONDEMAND AUDIO:

<http://www.worldofradio.com/audiomid.html>
or <http://wor.worldofradio.org>

DAY-BY-DAY ARCHIVE OF GLENN HAUSER'S LOG REPORTS:

Unedited, uncondensed, unchanged from original version, many of them too complex, minutely researched, multi-frequency, opinionated, inconsequential, off-topic, or lengthy for some log editors to manage; and also ahead of their availability in these weekly issues:
<http://www.hard-core-dx.com/index.php?topic=Hauser>

DXLD YAHOOGROUP: Why wait for DXLD? A lot more info, not all of it appearing in DXLD later, is posted at our yg without delay.

When applying, please identify yourself with your real name and location, and say something about why you want to join. Those who do not, unless I recognize them, will be prompted once to do so and no action will be taken otherwise. Here's where to sign up:
<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/dxld/>

** AFGHANISTAN. VOICE OF AFGHAN JOURNALIST NOW HEARD ON IS RADIO

<http://www.voanews.com/content/voice-of-afghan-journalist-now-heard-on-islamic-state-radio/3114538.html>

December 22, 2015 5:13 PM

The voice of a journalist who until recently used to work at radio stations in Afghanistan's eastern Nangarhar province can now be heard in the provincial capital, Jalalabad, and neighboring districts as the voice of Islamic State's new icaliphate radio.î

Former colleagues are quick to recognize the voice of Sultan Aziz Ezam, who worked for three local radio stations over the course of a decade, covering primarily land issues.

Now, that voice is issuing death threats.

Local newsmen hear their former colleague or some imitator accusing them of working for foreigners and saying they are on the IS death watch list for their reporting practices.

I know the addresses of houses of all those journalists who are working with different media organizations in Jalalabad, and will find them and will kill them, he declares.

Journalists 'very scared'

VOA could not independently confirm the identity of the IS radio anchor. But local Afghan journalists say they are alarmed by the threats and are taking them seriously, because they recognize the voice. "All journalists in Jalalabad are aware of the threats and are very scared," one local journalist told VOA.

About 50 reporters in Nangarhar work for local and international news outlets. Journalists say Ezam and his brother recently left their work at a local radio station, and Ezam had not been heard from until his voice surfaced on the IS broadcasts.

The Nangarhar governor's spokesman, Attaullah Khogianay, told reporters that the provincial government was aware of the threats to journalists. We have started working on a mechanism to protect reporters, he said, offering no specifics. We are hopeful, if we are successful in creating the mechanism, that reporters will feel safe.

The Nangarhar communications directorate has said that because of technical reasons, the radio has not yet been taken off the air.

IS radio

FM radio broadcasts by IS started recently along the Pakistan-Afghanistan border and are the voice of terror in a region where IS terrorist fighters are active.

IS launched the channel as the Voice of Khelafat [Caliphate]. It is not hard to find on the radio dial. The two-hour daily evening broadcasts include Quranic recitations, Arabic nasheed (Islamic chanting), interviews with IS fighters and anti-government propaganda. The channel also airs interviews with IS mullahs who issue fatwahs against those who work with the Afghan army and government, with the

Pakistan army and for foreigners in Afghanistan.

Pakistani and Afghan officials say they are hunting for the broadcasters; they believe the signal emanates from a mobile transmitter in the mountains.

The governor of Achin district, Haji Ghaleb, told VOA that the radio station has been set up in the Achin district along the border with Pakistan. Achin has recently seen an increasing presence of IS fighters who have launched multiple attacks on Afghan security forces in the district.

VOA reporters contributed to this report from Jalalabad.
(via Hansjoerg Biener, DXLD)

AFGHAN AUTHORITIES CLAIM TO SHUT DOWN IS RADIO

<http://www.voanews.com/content/afghan-authorities-claim-to-shut-down-is-radio/3117572.html>

FILE - Nangarhar University students gather as some raise Taliban and Islamic State flags in Jalalabad, Afghanistan, Nov. 8, 2015. An Afghan official said the government is investigating links between universities and extremist groups. [caption]

VOA News December 24, 2015 3:30 PM

Local authorities in Afghanistan's Nangarhar province say that Sadai Khilafat Radio (Voice of Caliphate), which broadcast pro-Islamic State propaganda, has stopped broadcasting in the eastern province.

Mimicking IS's media outreach in Syria and Iraq, the Afghan branch also set up a radio station in Nangarhar, broadcasting at least one hour a day to attract young Afghan men disenchanted by dim job prospects in a war-torn country with an overall 24 percent unemployment rate. The joblessness is even higher among youths targeted in the IS recruitment drive.

Atta Khogyani, spokesperson for the governor of Nangarhar, told VOA that local authorities were successful in discontinuing the radio station's broadcast. He added that authorities are looking into finding the location where the radio was broadcasting.

The frequency that Sadai Khilafat Radio was broadcasting is currently airing the national anthem of Afghanistan and other traditional music. Some officials in the local government say it is possible that foreign forces helped the government shut down the radio (via Clara Listensprechen, DXLD)

same but shorter URL:

<http://m.voanews.com/a/3117572.html>
(via Horacio Nigro, Uruguay, dxldyg via DXLD)

AFGANIST;N RECLAMA EL CESE DE LAS EMISIONES DE LA RADIO DE ESTADO
ISL;MICO

Radio Califato pertenece a Estado Isl;mico y sus emisiones se pueden
escuchar en la provincia de Nangarhar, en el este de Afganist;n, ha
informado la agencia de noticias afgana Pahjwok . . .

<http://www.estrelladigital.es/articulo/espanha/afganistan-reclama-cese-emisiones-radio-estado-islamico/20151222194427265779.html>
(via Jos  Miguel Romero2, Spain, dxldyg via DXLD)

** AFGHANISTAN [non]. USA(non), Frequency changes of IBB:

Deewa Radio from Dec 28

0100-0400 NF 7470 KWT 250 kW / 070 deg to WeAs Pashto, ex 9765 KWT

0100-0400 NF 7530 IRA 250 kW / 334 deg to WeAs Pashto, ex 12025 KWT

0100-0400 NF 9765 IRA 250 kW / 340 deg to WeAs Pashto, ex 12005 IRA

<http://swldxbulgaria.blogspot.bg/2015/12/frequency-changes-of-ibb.html>

-- 73! (Ivo Ivanov, QTH: Sofia, Bulgaria, dxldyg via WORLD OF RADIO
1806, DXLD) See ALBANIA below, another user of 7470!

** ALASKA [and non]. Good signal of KNLS The New Life Station Dec 22:

0800-0900 on 9615 NLS 100 kW / 270 deg to SEAs English tx#2

0900-1000 on 9680*NLS 100 kW / 300 deg to NEAs Russian tx#2

* very poor due to strong signal of Ictimai Radio on 9676.9

<http://swldxbulgaria.blogspot.bg/2015/12/good-signal-of-knls-new-life-station-on.html>

Very weak signal of KNLS The New Life Station. Today December 23 no
signal of Ictimai Radio on 9676.9:

0900-1000 on 9680*NLS 100 kW / 300 deg to NEAs Russian

<http://swldxbulgaria.blogspot.bg/2015/12/very-weak-signal-of-knls-new-life.html>

(DX RE MIX NEWS #932 from Georgi Bancov and Ivo Ivanov, Dec 28, 2015,
via DXLD)

Reception of KNLS The New Life Station, Dec 28:

0800-0900 on 9615 NLS 100 kW / 270 deg to SEAs English tx#2

0900-1000 on 9680*NLS 100 kW / 300 deg to NEAs Russian tx#2

1000-1100 on 9615 NLS 100 kW / 270 deg to SEAs English tx#2

* plus weak signal of Ictimai Radio on 9676.8 FM modulation.

<http://swldxbulgaria.blogspot.bg/2015/12/reception-of-knls-new-life-station-dec28.html>

-- 73! (Ivo Ivanov, B`lgariya, dxldyg via DXLD) See also ARMENIA/AZER

** ALBANIA [and non]. 7470, Dec 29 at 0225, open carrier to R. Tirana
IS starting, S7. I meant to tune in earlier to see if I could hear
another carrier on 7470, but now there's only the self-imposed LAH,
and is slightly off to the lo side of 7470. Usual canned sign-on

announcement still says ``2100 to 2030`` for the previous English airing, not corrected. Still no CCI, and at 0250, sports report with Albanian football scores; 0251 ending broadcast to music fill for the rest, 0258 playing IS again, 0300 off, and again not hearing anything else. I'm checking this carefully since Noel Green points out a frequency change by IBB effective Dec 28 according to Ivo Ivanov:

Deewa Radio from Dec 28:

0100-0400 NF 7470 KWT 250 kW / 070 deg to WeAs Pashto, ex 9765 KWT

Good that I can't hear Kuwait on 7470 tonight, but when reception improves from the area, it could be a problem for us in North America. From a remote receiver in NJ at 0304 after Tirana was off, Wolfgang B,schel did hear Kuwait with a very poor signal. Would other monitors in North America keep an ear on this during Tirana's 0230 broadcast and report whether there is a problem (Glenn Hauser, OK, WORLD OF RADIO 1806, DX LISTENING DIGEST)

** ANDAMAN & NICOBAR ISLANDS. INDIA, 4760, AIR Port Blair with very usable signal on Dec 18 from SDR remote unit at DL0AO site at DARC Amberg-Germany using NE Beverage - tuned at 0014 UT with readable signal for about 30 min before gray line passage killed the signal. Some occasional ute, CWQRM and heavy co-channel QRM from Tajikistan on 4765 kHz [sic --- that's adjacent channel, not co-! meaning same gh]

Also heard later on Dec 18 from 2345 UT tune with open carrier to 2353 UT then IS to 2354 UT. Lost signal due to server timeout and wrong antenna selected until 2357 UT at which time usual stringed/flute Hindi music after sign-on heard to 0000 UT. Woman announcer to 0001 UT then into local music with periodic woman to 0025 UT. Woman announcer followed by man to tune out at 0027 UT. Signal to this QTH seems to peak around 0015-0020 UT (Bruce W. Churchill-CA-USA, DXplorer Dec 23 via BC-DX 26 Dec via DXLD)

** ANGOLA. 4949.67, R·dio Nacional de Angola, good carrier strength at 1821 but almost no audio getting through, only the occasional "whisper" of a male announcer (David Sharp, NSW, Dec 23, Sent from David Sharp's iPhone, DX LISTENING DIGEST)

4949.75, R. Nacional de Angola, 0510, Dec 28. Just above threshold level audio; just able to get a definite ID (Ron Howard, Asilomar State Beach, CA, EtÛn E1, antenna: 100' long wire, dxldyg via DX LISTENING DIGEST)

** ARMENIA/AZERBAIJAN. Since late 90s, from Stepanakert - the capital of separatist Nagorno-Karabakh Republic (ex Azer, now pro Armenian) was on the air radio station, rather radio monster, broadcasting in wide frequency range around 9677 kHz with super distorted audio. It is

ex-jamming transmitter which was used in 80s against Radio Liberty. The broadcasts were in Azeri two times weekly - each by 30 minutes and repeated on next days, resp. Tue/Wed and Fri/Sat. The Russian DXers recognized their ID as "Edaletin Sese Radiosu" (=Voice of Justice).

Already 2-3 radio seasons the transmissions are at 0820-1420vary (DST from end of March 0720-1320) on 9677 and irregularly 0410-0610 (DST 0310-0510) on 11760 also with wide range but on 11743-11763 kHz. According to the WRTH it is V of Talyshistan; according to Ivo Ivanov is Radio Ictimai, etc., but I don't know some DXer who recognize the exact ID.

Some notes: On 9677 kHz there are not two stations - on as jamming; Ictimai in Azeri means Public; in Azerbaijan there is not DST but in Armenia and Nagorno-Karabakh there is DST. The sounds, the speakers, the music between the news are the same now as were in the past by V of Justice (Rumen Pankov, Sofia, Bulgaria, Dec 30, DX LISTENING DIGEST)

** AUSTRALIA. Photos of Symban World Radio and antenna in tropical wave 2368 kHz and FM 93.3 MHz from Sydney, NSW. EXCLUSIVE:

From year 2008 (Presumably). Other pictures in the tropical wave antenna, FM, Radio link antenna to studio, etc. You can see this link of Radio Symban, section Photos:
<http://www.symban.com.au/>
they disclose at 2369 AM on the website.

Radio Symban was founded in April 1997 by Angelo Matsoukas, a person with a wealth of knowledge in radio both in Greece and in Australia since the 1970s. The vision of Angelo Matsoukas and his colleagues was to create a radio station with a 24 hour Greek radio programme which would respect the political and religious convictions of all listeners, a value which has been respected by all and which makes up the philosophy of the station until today.

Watch your tropical wave antenna Radio Symban, some limited stations in Brazil in tropical wave use the same scheme.

Videos DXing received in Japan:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LmWwiiYbkJo>
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iZ0xAiXc9PI>
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mMurxj9a9H0>
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IzjJvReLn5E>

* Photo year 2015 Studios Symban World Radio *
<[https://www.google.com.br/maps/place//](https://www.google.com.br/maps/place//@-33.9048578,151.1291206,3a,66.8y,14.87h,100.38t/data=!3m4!1e1!3m2!)
@-33.9048578,151.1291206,3a,66.8y,14.87h,100.38t/data=!3m4!1e1!3m2!

1sKGdN80d8Ff7ZYk1pL0RJQg!2e0>

73 (Daniel Wyllyans, Nova Xavantina MT, Dec 25, Brazil
<<http://dxbrazilsw.blogspot.com.br/2015/12/photos-of-symban-world-radio-and.html>>
Hard-Core-DX mailing list via DXLD)

Altho 2369 AM is on the masthead, the about-us station history neglects to mention anything about it, instead, X-band, VHF and internet (Glenn Hauser, DXLD)

** AUSTRALIA. However, the private station, 2368, R. Symban, Sydney NSW has not been heard since about July or August, and still remains off-air; perhaps for good? Who knows!

Over the last week, 2325 kHz ABC Tennant Creek, NT and 2485 kHz ABC Katherine, NT have both been off air with different technical problems. New parts have arrived, been installed, and both transmitters were back on air last night when I checked at 1020 UT. Cheers, all, (Rob VK3BVW Wagner, HF Underground via Daniel Wyllyans, Brasil, Dec 25, Hard-Core-DX mailing list via WORLD OF RADIO 1806, DXLD)

** AUSTRALIA. 12085, Dec 24 at 1342, RA is JBA, much weaker than 12065, which should be the other way round, as 12085 should aim NNE at 30 degrees and 12065 at 35 degrees further west. I can tell 12085 is really RA on the air only by // to 12065 and 9580. Something is amiss again.

12065 & 12085, Dec 28 at 1413, R. Australias are at equal levels, instead of normally 12065 much weaker than 12085, due to differing azimuths. Something has changed.

12085, Dec 30 at 1327 check, this RA frequency is once again much stronger than // 12065, which is the normal situation; after their being equal on Dec 28, and reverse on Dec 24 --- as if antennas were being exchanged. What's going on at Shepparton? (Glenn Hauser, OK, WORLD OF RADIO 1806, DX LISTENING DIGEST)

** AUSTRALIA. RADIO COMMUNICATIONS FOR THE 2015 SYDNEY TO HOBART YACHT RACE --- Southgate December 27, 2015
http://www.southgatearc.org/news/2015/december/radio_communications_for_the_2015_sydney_to_hobart_yacht_race.htm#.Vn_DmOTnnmI

The annual Sydney to Hobart Yacht Race is currently underway and makes good listening during sked times throughout the day, when each vessel reports in with their latitude/longitude positions.

Frequencies used are 6516 and 4483 kHz. These frequencies will be in

operation until the race is completed, probably some time during December 31. Sked times and other details, along with a YouTube video of a portion of the first sked from December 26 are at:
<http://medxr.blogspot.com.au/2015/12/radio-communications-for-2015-sydney-to.html>
73, Rob VK3BVW Wagner Posted by: (Mike Terry, dxldyg via DXLD)

** BAHRAIN. Surprisingly strong signal of Radio Bahrain on Dec 23:
1445-1515 on 9745 ABH 010 kW / non-dir to N/ME Arabic in CUSB due to NHK World on 9750 YAM 300 kW / 290 deg to EaAs Japanese is off today
http://swldxbulgaria.blogspot.bg/2015/12/surprisingly-strong-signal-of-radio_23.html
(DX RE MIX NEWS #932 from Georgi Bancov and Ivo Ivanov, Dec 28, 2015, via DXLD)

9745-CUSB, Radio Bahrain, 1840, very good with traditional Arabic vocals. Enjoyed hearing this well past 1900. (Also noted again at 1715 with good level on 29/12.) (David Sharp, NSW, Dec 23, Sent from David Sharp's iPhone, DX LISTENING DIGEST)

9744.997-USB mode, Radio Bahrain, Abu Hayan, Arabic service, but western pop music, and station ID in English at 0443 UT Dec 26, "98.4 FM ID", S=8-9 signal level in Qatar. USB mode bandwidth visible like 3.3 kHz only (Wolfgang B_schel, wwdxc BC-DX TopNews Dec 25 via DXLD)

** BELARUS. Strong signal of Radio Belarus, but modulation not 100%:
1100-1400 on 11730 MNS 100 kW / 246 deg to WeEu Belarussian on Dec.23
<http://swldxbulgaria.blogspot.bg/2015/12/strong-signal-of-radio-belarus-but.html>
(DX RE MIX NEWS #932 from Georgi Bancov and Ivo Ivanov, Dec 28, 2015, via DXLD)

** BERMUDA. 89.1, ZBM, Hamilton, Dec/30/15, 1311 EST [1811 UT], English, VG. PSA for MADD and "Bermuda Mothers for MADD - Don't Drink and Drive Campaign" by Male DJ. Into Caribe Island Music. RELOG 1162 Miles. RECEIVER: SANGEAN HDT-1X, ANTENNA: APS-14 14 Element Beam at 50 Feet on Tower. FM LOG TOTALS are now: 2745 Stations Heard. 73 ROB VA3SW (Robert S. Ross, London, Ontario, CANADA, ODXA yg via DXLD)

** BHUTAN. 6035.05, BBS, *0057 on Dec 24:
*0057-0100: no intro - straight into indigenous chanting.
0100-0111: monologue (news?).0111-0119: items with brief indigenous instrumental music between items.
0119-0126: indigenous chanting/singing.

My local sunset at 0056, while Bhutan sunrise was at 0048. Close to a perfect match up for grayline reception.

6035.05, BBS. Dec 28 listening for sign on between 0030-0125, but nothing heard; they signed on later; by 0140 noted open carrier, but

by then was too late for any audio. My only window of opportunity here for BBS reception is about 0040-0120 (Ron Howard, Asilomar State Beach, CA, EtŮn E1, antenna: 100' long wire, dxldyg via WORLD OF RADIO 1806, DX LISTENING DIGEST)

** BIAFRA [non]. SECRETLAND(non), SPL The Global specialist for International Communications on shortwave and provided to you strong and quality signal around the world.

SPL relay test transmissions of Radio Biafra via Secretbrod Dec 20:
2000-2300 11600 SCB 100 kW / 195 deg WeAf ONLY open carrier / dead air
<http://swldxbulgaria.blogspot.bg/2015/12/radio-biafra-via-secretbrod-open.html>

SPL relay test broadcast of Radio Biafra via Secretbrod on Dec 22:
2000-2300 11600 SCB 100 kW / 195 deg WeAf English, live broadcast
<http://swldxbulgaria.blogspot.bg/2015/12/spl-relay-test-broadcast-of-radio.html>

SPL relay test transmissions of Radio Biafra via Secretbrod on Dec 23:
2000-2050 11600 SCB 100 kW / 195 deg WeAf English plus music, not live
2050-2130 11600 SCB 100 kW / 195 deg WeAf dead air, tx off at 2132 UT!
<http://swldxbulgaria.blogspot.bg/2015/12/radio-biafra-via-secretbrod-on-december.html>

SPL Secretbrod relay Radio Biafra on Dec 25
2000-2300 11600 SCB 100 kW / 195 deg WeAf English, live
<http://swldxbulgaria.blogspot.bg/2015/12/spl-secretbrod-relay-radio-biafra-on.html>

SPL relay Radio Biafra via Secretbrod on December 26, open carrier/dead air:
2000-2012 11600 SCB 100 kW / 195 deg WeAf & then talks, low modulation
http://swldxbulgaria.blogspot.bg/2015/12/spl-relay-radio-biafra-via-secretbrod_26.html
(DX RE MIX NEWS #932 from Georgi Bancov and Ivo Ivanov, Dec 28, 2015, via DXLD) To be considered ``test`` until they ever get it right? (gh)

SPL relay Radio Biafra via Secretbrod Dec 28, open carrier / dead air
2000-2047 11600 SCB 100 kW / 195 deg WeAf and off the air at 2047 UT:
http://swldxbulgaria.blogspot.bg/2015/12/spl-relay-radio-biafra-via-secretbrod_29.html
73! (Ivo Ivanov, B'lgariya, dxldyg via DXLD)

SPL Secretland relay Radio Biafra via Secretbrod on December 29:
2000-2018 on 11600 SCB 100 kW / 195 deg to WeAf, open carrier/dead air
2018-2039 on 11600 SCB 100 kW / 195 deg to WeAf, mx/not live broadcast
from 2039 on 11600 SCB 100 kW / 195 deg to WeAf, really live broadcast
<http://swldxbulgaria.blogspot.bg/2015/12/spl-secretland-relay-radio-biafra-via.html>

-- 73! (Ivo Ivanov, QTH: Sofia, Bulgaria, Equipment: Sony ICF-2001D 30

m. long wire, dxldyg via DX LISTENING DIGEST)

Problems continue. How much blame is due to SCB and how much to Radio Biafra failing to provide a reliable program feed into it? (gh, DXLD)

Weren't the previous Issoudun transmissions plagued by losses of modulation as well?

<http://radiobiafra.co>

always brings up real program audio, either by clicking on "Live Radio" or even autolaunching. So what's the problem here??

And someone should really tell them that pleaaaaase you should not put a running cell phone close to audio equipment! (Kai Ludwig, Germany, dxldyg via DX LISTENING DIGEST)

A pretty monotonous Radio Biafra transmission so far today. Carrier came on a couple of minutes before 2000 UT with audio beginning about 2000 with the song "I'm a Biafran" which has been repeated several times now. No sign-on announcement of any kind. Currently 2019 (Richard Langley, NB, Dec 24, dxldyg via DXLD) Still heard via remote?

Nothing but a carrier noted today for at least an hour starting a couple of minutes before 2000 UT as monitored via Twente (Richard Langley, Dec 25, dxldyg via DX LISTENING DIGEST)

Live broadcast today from 2000 UT, videos tomorrow ñ (73! Ivo Ivanov QTH: Sofia, Bulgaria, Dec 25, dxldyg via DXLD)

Very weak, low-audio signal today via Twente. Just before 2000 UT, there was some brief audio at listenable level from Brother Stair or another broadcaster. I guess they were testing the signal set-up. But when Radio Biafra started (right into commentary -- no anthem or music), it was hard to make out anything. Gave up listening (Richard Langley, 27 Dec, ibid.)

And on 28 December, nothing but a carrier noted via Twente at 2020 UT peaking to S8 or S9 (Richard Langley, NB, dxldyg via WORLD OF RADIO 1806, DX LISTENING DIGEST)

** BOLIVIA [and non]. 6025, 0948-0959 UT 29.12.2015. Red Patria Nueva. Llamados telefónicos en respuesta a la pregunta sobre hechos destacables del año 2015. Señal con leve siseo de Radio Martí y otras. Grabación:

<https://soundcloud.com/claudio-radioham-dx/6025-red-patria-nueva-29-12-2015-0956-utc>

6025, 1010-1020 UT 30.12.2015. Red Patria Nueva. Informaciones del departamento de La Paz y otros, en idioma aimara. Grabación:

<https://soundcloud.com/claudio-radioham-dx/6025-red-patria-nueva-30-12-2015-1016-utc>

(Claudio Galaz, Receptor: Realistic DX-160, Antena: Hilo de 45 metros + tierra+ balun 4:1, Lugar: Ovalle, Chile, SWARL call sign: CE2006SWL, condiglista yg via DXLD)

** BOLIVIA. Radio Panamericana on 6105 kHz seems to have become a rarely heard station since July 2015. This coincides with the death of the founder Miguel Dueri Anton Maria on 30 July 2015 and the apparent relaunch of their website

<http://panamericana.bo/>

The coloured header of the site only mentions 96.1 MHz and 580 kHz while further down the short wave frequency is still included in a list which also mentions 106.3 MHz for the provinces. The site refers to a web stream at

<http://www.megalink.com/radio/panamericana/index.php>

which did not start when checked.

Looking at the given schedule one might also note that the station closes two hours earlier in the weekend compared with the weekday schedule.

UT schedule: 1000-0300 Mo-Fr, including 1225 and 1530 Contacto con la VOA; 1100-0100 Sa Su

LT schedule (LT=UTC-4)

Mon-Fri:

06:00 Bolivia en canto
06:30 Buenos días Bolivia
07:30 Panamericano Matinal
08:00 Ronda de Corresponsales
08:25 Contacto con la VOA
08:40 Panamericano Deportivo
09:00 Noticiero Solar
09:15 Micrófono Abierto
11:30 Contacto con la VOA
12:20 Panamericano Deportivo
13:00 Panamericano Meridiano
13:30 Microncierto
14:00 Noticiero Solar (reprise)
14:15 Surcos Bolivianos
15:30 Onda Panamericana
18:00 Voz Popular
19:00 Suavecito
20:00 Panamericano Nocturno
20:30 Hola Noche
23:00 Cierre

Sábado

07:00 Personalidades de la música
07:30 Panamericano Matinal
08:00 Ronda de Corresponsales
08:30 Discoteca Panamericana
09:00 Noticiero Solar
09:10 Discoteca Panamericana
11:00 Especial de Solar
11:30 Contacto Internacional
12:00 Diálogo en Panamericana
14:00 Confidencias
14:30 Surcos Bolivianos
18:00 Un tiempo con Dios
20:00 Ronda de los Éxitos
21:00 Cierre

Domingo

07:00 Manantial de Vida
08:00 Diálogo (reprise)
10:00 Confidencias
10:30 Siempre en Domingo
13:00 El Panamericano Deportivo
18:00 Un tiempo con Dios (reprise)
20:00 Concierto Dominical
21:00 Cierre

If the transmitter is broken or failing, it is unlikely that short wave will be given any investment before January 2017, because the station's licence is coming up for renewal and the station does not necessarily comply with Presidente Evo Morales' views (Dr. Hansjoerg Biener, 29 December 2015, WORLD OF RADIO 1806, DX LISTENING DIGEST)

** BRAZIL. ANOMALIA 4862 kHz --- Para quem mora no exterior É um bom momento para ouvir a Rádio Verdes Florestas em 4865 kHz. Nesse momento ela está transmitindo músicas, É uma missa católica; acabei de confirmar o áudio do web site
<http://www.verdesflorestas.com.br/radio/player.html>
também com áudio da onda tropical, ambos áudios ao vivo.

Quanto a 4862 kHz, provavelmente seria a Rádio Alvorada de Londrina, que está transmitindo em 4862 kHz com OM falando CX natalinos. Mas não ouvi nada ligado a Londrina. Esperarei por um ID.

Dia 24/12 0211 UT, Hoje 26/12 às 0148 UT a Anomalia continua. Fiz um vídeo mas estou com problemas de internet com tempo de chuvas e fortes ondas de calor ao mesmo tempo, 73 (Daniel Wylllys, Xavantina MT, Dec 27, Hard-Core-DX mailing list via DXLD)

** BRAZIL. 4885, Dec 30 at 0705, very poor signal in Brazuguese, as R. Clube do Par. apparently signs on now at 0700, rather than 24h, and is already off again by our evenings (Glenn Hauser, OK, DX LISTENING DIGEST)

** BRAZIL. Prefixo R·dio Cultura de Cuiab· - 5015 kHz Onda Tropical (OT). Passando o prefixo no 0:17 do video, È citado os 710 kHz AM e a Onda Tropical de 5015 kHz, depois m'sica Gospel da Igreja Pentecostal Deus È Amor; essa emissora vem transmindo na onda tropical sÚmente durante o dia no Brasil; durante as noites brasileiras fica OFF. Isso È interessante? Pois as emissoras de onda tropical costumam atingir seu auge ‡ noite, atingindo assim centenas de km, presumivelmente de dia essa frequÍncia talvez atinge 2.000 KM durante o dia. SINPO 54444, Dia 29 de Dezembro 2015 ‡s 2057 UT
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hyieegKNfYY&feature=youtu.be>
RX: Tecsun S-2000, Antenna: Telescopic (Daniel Wyllyans, Nova Xavantina MT, Brazil, Hard-Core-DX mailing list via DXLD)

** BRAZIL. 11855.1, Dec 29 at 0242, new frequency for R. Aparecida, only S3, but obviously ex-11856.2 where it had been for several weeks; on the NRD-545; recheck at 0645 on the R75 refines it to 11855.13, at S4-7 in Brazuguese.

11934.92, Dec 29 at 0648, R·dio RB2, another perpetually off-frequency ZY, is poorly audible with singing like 11855.1 as it's almost always relaying Aparecida. Too weak to tell if synchronized. Also heard earlier at 0245 on 11934.9, JBA at S3 (Glenn Hauser, OK, WORLD OF RADIO 1806, DX LISTENING DIGEST)

** BRAZIL. 28424.9-USB, Dec 24 at 2039, PY4NY, Jan, concluding contact with a J4 after considerable trouble copying his call, just as I have trouble copying the PY call until he foneticizes it ('`New York``' --- I once failed to make an aunt understand ham fonetix, how e.g. this one would have nothing else to do with New York). QRZ.com shows:

JANIO DE SOUSA GODOI
Rua Bom Jesus da Penha, 659, BL 47, Apto. 1103
Bairro Santa Terezinha,
Belo Horizonte - MINAS GERAIS 31365190, Brazil

And he's also operated from Fernando de Noronha as PY0NY (why don't hams expeditioning there ever put on a SWBC station for a new radio broadcast country?) (Glenn Hauser, OK, DX LISTENING DIGEST)

** BRAZIL. 28370-USB, Dec 24 at 2042, two Brazilians in QSO: PY2ZK and PY2HP, in Portuguese and a little English. I guess they are within groundwave range? As prefix implies, in QRZ.com, both are in SP, SP:

PY2ZK Brazil flag Brazil
BILA-WALDEMIR SOARES SILVA
RUA ARATANJI-362
ZIP:02613-070- SVO PAULO - SP
Brazil

Lucas.
P.O.Box 334
S,,o Paulo, SP 13295970
Brazil

Ten meters isn't very open, but a little of this so far away is nice,
and it makes you wonder what Brazilian SW broadcasters could
accomplish with higher power on 11 meters (Glenn Hauser, OK, DX
LISTENING DIGEST)

** BULGARIA. SECRETLAND, SPL Secretbrod relay ETC Radio, Dec 25
1801-1831 11600 SCB 100 kW / 306 deg to WeEu English
from 1832 11600 SCB 100 kW / 195 deg to WeAf open carrier, test for R.
Biafra
<http://swldxbulgaria.blogspot.bg/2015/12/spl-secretbrod-relay-etc-radio-dec25.html>
-- 73! (Ivo Ivanov, B'lgariya, dxldyg via DXLD) End Times Coming (gh)

** BULGARIA. SECRETLAND, SPL The Global specialist for International
Communications on shortwave and provided to you strong and quality
signal around the world.

SPL relay IRRS Shortwave Radio Warra Wangeelaa-ti:
1500-1530 on 15515 SCB 050 kW / 195 deg to EaAf Oromo Sat December 26
Mixture between R. Warra Wangeelaa of 15515 & Denge Kurdistan on 9400,
Dec 26

1500-1530 on 9400 SCB 100 kW / 090 deg to WeAs Denge Kurdistan + R.
Warra Wangeelaa
1500-1530 on 15515 SCB 050 kW / 195 deg to EaAf Sat only Radio Warra
Wangeelaa-ti
http://swldxbulgaria.blogspot.bg/2015/12/spl-relay-irrs-shortwave-radio-warra_26.html
-- 73! (Ivo Ivanov, B'lgariya, Dec 26, dxldyg via DXLD)

** BULGARIA. SECRETLAND(non), SPL The Global specialist for
International Communications on shortwave and provided to you strong
and quality signal around the world. SPL relay IRRS various programs,
Dec 25 [sic, must mean Dec 26], day by day different transmissions:
1900-2000 on 7290 SCB 100 kW / 306 deg to WeEu English Sat as follows
1900-1905 on 7290 SCB 100 kW / 306 deg to WeEu Feature Story News FSN
1905-1915 on 7290 SCB 100 kW / 306 deg to WeEu United Nations Radio
1915-1930 on 7290 SCB 100 kW / 306 deg to WeEu Christmas Songs, talks

1930-1940 on 7290 SCB 100 kW / 306 deg to WeEu United Nations Radio
1940-2000 on 7290 SCB 100 kW / 306 deg to WeEu Several Songs, talks
<http://swldxbulgaria.blogspot.bg/2015/12/spl-relay-irrs-various-programs-on.html>
-- 73! (Ivo Ivanov, B'lgariya, Dec 26, dxldyg via DXLD)

** CANADA. Norway radio enthusiast tunes into CBC Saskatchewan 5,800
km away --- Ole Forr is a 58-year-old radio lover who tunes into radio
stations across the world for fun --- CBC News Posted: Dec 30, 2015
5:12 AM CT Last Updated: Dec 30, 2015 7:31 AM CT

And`ya, Norway is more than 5,800 kilometres from Regina, Sask. A
dairy farmer in Norway went to great lengths to tune into CBC
Saskatchewan. Sure, The Morning Edition with Sheila Coles is the No. 1
morning radio show in Saskatchewan. But few people could have expected
it to reach a group of listeners more than 5,800 kilometres away ó and
not through the internet. . .
<http://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/saskatchewan/norway-farmer-thrilled-cbc-saskatchewan-radio-1.3384042>
(via Steve Whitt, York, MWCircle yg via DXLD)

** CANADA. 2749-USB, Dec 29 at 0246, robo-YL in English with marine
weather, S9 but about equal to noise level; includes wind forecasts in
knots, gale warning. CCG website shows starting at 0240 is VCS Halifax
via site in suburb Sambro: ``Technical marine synopsis, forecasts and
wave height forecasts for marine areas 201 to 214. Notices to Shipping
in South Coast Nova Scotia area. Notices to Shipping revising the
position of every reported offshore exploration and exploitation
vessel`` (Glenn Hauser, OK, DX LISTENING DIGEST)

** CANADA [and non]. 6070, Dec 24 at 0531, CFRX with local Toronto
PSAs, not // 5085 WTWW, but this could just be in a break. No, by
0555, CFRX is in music while WTWW is still in 'Midnight [sic] in the
Desert' with new hostess Heather, interviewing someone who believes in
levitation, soon break switching to Ted pushing C Crane SW radios.

Back to 6070: at 0556, ``10-10 news``, 0601 into local talk show. So
CFRB has already bailed out now that Art Bell is gone. Axually, sounds
to me like Heather is doing a good job, if you like that sort of
nonsense. The CFRB website now shows at 12-3 am [EST = UT -5] Tue-Sat,
generic 'Newstalk 1010 Programming'. Tsk2
<http://www.newstalk1010.com/schedule.aspx>
(Glenn Hauser, OK, WORLD OF RADIO 1806, DX LISTENING DIGEST)

** CANADA. CKZU Vancouver --- 6160, 1018 25 DEC - SINPO = 25122.
English, classical music. QSB=slow rate, often below noise floor with
peaks well above it. Fade/out to just noisy wavy carrier at 1020z.
Started to return with woman singing opera at 1026z. sf131.5, a12, k3,
geomag: unsettled. 0.5kw, beamAz 315 , bearing 339 . Sangean ATS505

w/Sony AN-LP1 active loop in west facing window. Received at Las Vegas, United States, 1576KM from transmitter at Vancouver BC. Local time: 0218 (Rodney Johnson, NV, dxldyg via DX LISTENING DIGEST)

** CHINA [and non]. 9690, Dec 26 at 0122, two carriers slightly apart, one playing CNR sounder, so it's likely a jamming situation: yes: Aoki shows RFA Uyghur via UAE this hour only is * (Glenn Hauser, OK, DX LISTENING DIGEST)

** CHINA. 9455, Dec 26 at 1934, weak Firedragon music jamming at S6. Also seems to be a LAH; target is RFA Chinese via Saipan, supposedly until 2100 but nothing audible at recheck shortly after 2000. Someone mentioned that the actual music on the Firedragon jamming has changed for the better, but I haven't heard it well enough in a long time to opine. Is it really different? (Glenn Hauser, OK, DX LISTENING DIGEST)

** CHINA. CNR-1 Jammer vs Sound of Hope Xi Wang Zhi Sheng 0830 on 11530, 11580 probably via transmitters in Taiwan <http://swldxbulgaria.blogspot.bg/2015/12/cnr-1-jammer-vs-sound-of-hope-xi-wang.html> (DX RE MIX NEWS #932 from Georgi Bancov and Ivo Ivanov, Dec 28, 2015, via DXLD) date of logs? Dec 28 in the credit line in this form is the date of publication, not necessarily the same (gh)

** CHINA [non]. 9580, Dec 29 at 0239, CRI relay via CUBA is S9+20 but dead air; while // 9570 via ALBANIA is modulating Chinese at S7 (Glenn Hauser, OK, DX LISTENING DIGEST)

** CHINA. 9360, 2125-2138 UT 29.12.2015. Chinese Firedrake jammer versus Voice of Hope. Grabaci n: <https://soundcloud.com/claudio-radioham-dx/9360-chinese-firedrake-jammer-vs-sound-of-hope-29-12-2015-2133-utc> (Claudio Galaz, Receptor: Realistic DX-160, Antena: Hilo de 45 metros + tierra+ balun 4:1, Lugar: Ovalle, Chile, SWARL call sign: CE2006SWL, condiglista yg via DXLD)

** CHINA. 6080, CNR1 (Geermu) 0032-0100* 19 Dec. First audio surfacing just after BOH with chat // 7560 (jammer v. VOA), 9690 (jammer v. AIR/VOA), 11960 (Beijing), 15425/17440 (both jammers v. SOH). Had ads/promos at 0055, 5+1 & "Beijing shijian" ["Beijing time"] at TOH with 6080, 7560, 15295, 17440 closing at 0100.

6090, CNR2 (Geermu) 0027-0100+ 25 Dec. Lurking behind the 2 "S"s (DG/PM [Anguilla]) // 7220. EiBi/Aoki have 6090 closing at 0100, but heard well past TOH today.

6055, CNR1 (unID site), 1524 24 Dec. Could be a mixing product from one or more of the CNR1 jammers/regularly scheduled outlets on 49M, or

perhaps a random "holiday" jammer?--nothing listed in EiBi/Aoki on 6055 for CNR1 to mess with, however (Dan Sheedy, Moonlight Beach CA, E5/6m X wire, DX LISTENING DIGEST)

** CHINA. CNR-8 on 9785 kHz & PBS Qinghai on 9780 kHz, Dec 25
1400-1500 on 9785 BEI 100 kW / 063 deg to EaAs Korean CNR-8
1400-1500 on 9780 XIN 050 kW / 270 deg to EaAs Chinese PBS Qinghai
<http://swldxbulgaria.blogspot.bg/2015/12/cnr-8-on-9785-khz-pbs-qinghai-on-9780.html>
73! (Ivo Ivanov, B'lgariya, dxldyg via DXLD)

How nice of them to double up, conserving frequency usage (gh)

** CHINA [non]. And, with the closing of RTL on 1440 kHz on New Year's Eve, CRI will lose 10 hours of German programming daily on European AM radio. Don't know if they're on any other frequency in Europe (Richard Langley, NB, dxldyg via DX LISTENING DIGEST) See USA: 1520 KYND, 1540

** CONGO. 6115, Radio Congo, 1750, already on with talk by man and Radio Congo ID. Weak modulation (David Sharp, NSW, Dec 23, Sent from David Sharp's iPhone, DX LISTENING DIGEST)

** CONGO DR. 5066.4, Radio Candip, 1725, fair with hilife and male announcer. In the clear with the UTE which haunts this area off (David Sharp, NSW, Dec 23, Sent from David Sharp's iPhone, DX LISTENING DIGEST)

** CUBA. Good signal of Cuban Spy Numbers HM01 on December 21
0654-0748 9330 secret / hidden tx ?Bejucal? Spanish Sun/Mon/Wed/Fri
http://swldxbulgaria.blogspot.bg/2015/12/good-signal-of-cuban-spy-numbers-hm01_21.html
(DX RE MIX NEWS #932 from Georgi Bancov and Ivo Ivanov, Dec 28, 2015, via DXLD)

** CUBA. 790, Dec 25 at 0209 on caradio as I tune by, without really trying, hear time pip and RR, from Radio Reloj, which per WRTH 2016 is 25 kW from Pinar del Rio, altho there's another at the far other end of the island, 10 kW in Holguin (Glenn Hauser, OK, DX LISTENING DIGEST)

** CUBA. 1000, Radio Artemisa, Artemisa, Artemisa. 1000 December 25, 2015. Nice recorded ID with theme in passing, very good signal.

1140, Radio Rebelde. 1107 December 24, 2015. One of the Rebelde transmitters here is loud and badly over-modulated/distorted. Musical Nacional and others underneath (Terry L. Krueger, All times/dates GMT, NRD-535, IC-R75, roof dipole, active loop u.o.s., Clearwater, FL u.o.s., DX LISTENING DIGEST)

** CUBA. 1620, Dec 28 at 0317, as I tune in, ``Parada de ...xitos, Rebelde``, and // 5025, so not relaying the FM network instead this time. WRTH 2016 has three Rebelde on 1620, two of which are in Ciudad de la Habana province, 5 kW in Guanabacoa, and unknown power in El Sapo, surely one of those rather than the third, 1 kW in far-off Guantánamo. One other Cuban 1620 is R. Bayamo, Granma (Glenn Hauser, OK, DX LISTENING DIGEST)

** CUBA. 6270, Dec 25 at 0344, no signal from RHC leapfrog mixing product, 6060 over 6165 another 105 kHz higher; have not heard this in a long time, so I wonder if Arnie finally got it suppressed so I could no longer report hearing it? Or are the fundamentals no longer from the same site, which would also get rid of the problem? No, B-15 skeds still show Bauta for both at 01-05; however at 05-07, 6060 changes to Quivicán, so 6270 completely impossible for English after 0500.

6100, Sunday Dec 27 at 0715, VG RHC confirmed in weekly Esperanto tacked-on semihour, all other frequencies now correctly off (Glenn Hauser, OK, DX LISTENING DIGEST)

5040 kHz, RHC in 5-6 UT slot WAS NOT ON AIR this morning; R Rebelde on 5025 kHz noted with poor S=6...8 signal only. wb (Wolfgang B. schel, Dec 28, dxldyg via DXLD)

6165, Dec 29 at 0700, RHC in Spanish with report from Villa Clara about some imminent anniversary, also on 6000, as program feed has morphed from English before the ops get the transmitters turned off; 6060 and 6100 carriers are still on too, but dead. Probably all off within a few minutes. RHC is never one for smooth, accurate switching (Glenn Hauser, OK, DX LISTENING DIGEST)

** CZECHIA. While listening to the podcast of WoR #1805 and the item on English recently heard on Czech radio, I happened to glance over to my wife's curio cabinet where she keeps her prized tea cups, etc. and noticed the cup and saucer that I had donated to her collection (see attached [in the dxldyg]). It was a gift from Radio Prague, one of several items received from shortwave radio stations back in the "good old days" of shortwave. Anyone else have one or similar trinkets? (Richard Langley, NB, Dec 28, dxldyg via WORLD OF RADIO 1806, DX LISTENING DIGEST)

Back in either the 60's or early 80's, I got a figure doll of a newsman with a mike and recorder slung over his shoulder from R. Prague. I got some neat items from various stations over the years: keychains, lapel pins, pennants and that handmade flute from HCJB. Nowadays, you're lucky to get a QSL card from a station (Don Hosmer, W8SWL, W Branch MI USA, dxldyg via WORLD OF RADIO 1806, DX LISTENING

DIGEST)

[Re 15-51:] Czech Radio, CRo Plus, has started carrying news bulletins in English weekdays at 1805 and 1905 (BDXC UK Broadcasts in English B-15 booklet via DXLD)

Thanks, that explains it. The 639 kHz frequency is very high power and does well into UK and Ireland, especially in Winter (Derek Lynch, WORLD OF RADIO 1806, DX LISTENING DIGEST)

750 + 30 kW = 780 kW, per WRTH 2016 (gh, DXLD)

Czech Republic: Beginning on 5 January 2016, Český Rozhlas Plus will be broadcast almost entirely on FM. While the FM coverage is being enlarged, the only medium wave still assigned to CR Plus, Ostrava-Svinov 639 kHz, will broadcast CR Plus in the evening 16.00-24.00 h Local Time. The changes also affect the English segments 19.05-19.10 and 20.05-20.10 h Local Time which came under the umbrella of CR Plus in November 2015.

(Dr. Hansjörg Biener)

More details on the move to FM can be found at

http://www.rozhlas.cz/plus/nove/_zprava/1529057

http://www.rozhlas.cz/vysilace/aktualne/_zprava/neprehlednete-naladte-se-od-listopadu-na-nove-frekvence61536560

(Biener, Dec 29, DXLD)

Members, This news coming from Český Rozhlas is a complete surprise. Dr Hansjörg Biener quotes the official website in his article written today on Ydun's MediumWave Info.

On 04 January 2016 the following stations will close,

270 kHz Uherské Hradiště - Topolná

639 kHz Praha - Liblice

954 kHz Brno - Dobruška

954 kHz Česká Budejovice - Hosova Kolonie

954 kHz Karlovy Vary - Stará Role

1332 kHz Moravské Budejovice - Domamil

The only surviving station will be Ostrava Svinov on 639 kHz which will only broadcast from 05 January 2016 between 1500-2300 UT.

This means that some sites with a rich history will be transferred to my Inactive or Closed spreadsheet. The closure of the Topolná longwave transmitter means that there will be even more space for RT... and Tipaza to sort out their collision on 252 kHz. 73 and 88 (Dan Goldfarb, Dec 29, mwmasts yg via DXLD)

Hello, CRo is to close most of its MW transmitters. All outlets on 954 and 1332 kHz will stop broadcasting on the 5th of January. The main

transmitter on 639 kHz will also be closed, only the 30 kW transmitter near Ostrava will remain active. Source: RBB Radio Eins. 73, (R  my Friess, BDXC yg via DXLD)

From the WRTH Facebook group: I think there is a misunderstanding here! As far as I can see, it is just CroPlus, who leaves MW except for 639 kHz. CRo2 will still use the above MW frequencies (Ydun Ritz, December 29 via WORLD OF RADIO 1806, DXLD)

According to the official report the change is much less drastic than what it sounds: CRo Plus programme time (15-23) will be replaced by CRo 2 except for 639 kHz, so there would be absolutely no change in terms of total transmitting hours on MW! Just a return to the time before CRo Plus was brought to MW sharing CRo 2's frequencies. But I guess we'd better wait and see what really happens (Mauno Ritola having got in touch with Czech DXer Karel Honzik December 30 via Mike Barraclough, ibid.)

Don't know, but the RBB Radioeins media show says they will go altogether.

http://www.radioeins.de/programm/sendungen/medienmagazin/radio_news/beitraege/2015/rozhlas_mw.html

Wait and see, 73, (R  my Friess, ibid.)

Hello R  my, It is not completely clear but I think as per this page

http://www.rozhlas.cz/plus/nove/_zprava/1529057

it could be that 954 and 1332 stays on the air but only until 16 LT.

Maybe Karel can shine a light on this? 73, (Guido Schotmans, Dec 30, MWCircle yg via DXLD)

Hello Guido, I don't know, but the RBB Radio Eins media programme says they will go off altogether and RBB is usually well-informed:

http://www.radioeins.de/programm/sendungen/medienmagazin/radio_news/beitraege/2015/rozhlas_mw.html

Wait and see. Regards, (R  my Friess, France, ibid.)

I think it is all a misinformation by Dr. Biener based on two articles published by Cesky Rozhlas (CRo). He already managed to send his info to various media. But none of these articles says that Czech Republic leaves MW. It says that CRo Plus (now 1500-2300) leaves MW for FM except Ostrava-Svinov 639. How was it in the past on MW?

former:

CRo2 (0300-2300)

now:

CRo2 (0300-1500), CRo Plus (1500-2300)

So I suppose that now when CRo Plus leaves MW from Jan 5, the schedule will be returned back. The only strange thing is, that on 639 kHz there will be two programmes on one frequency, with one very strong transmitter (Liblice) and one weak transmitter (Svinov). According to CRo it is difficult to find a suitable FM frequency for Ostrava (a big town, now covered by Svinov on MW). Distance between the two transmitters is 250 km (Karel Honzík, Czechia, Dec 31, *ibid.*)

At present insiders try to find out what's going on there.

As a matter of fact the referenced PR puff http://www.rozhlas.cz/plus/nove/_zprava/1529057 is the only piece of information that can be found, and all it says is that CRo Plus will as of Jan 5 be transmitted on mediumwave only, 4 to 12 PM via the Ostrava transmitter, otherwise via FM only.

There appears to be a belief that the other transmitters will simply carry other programming instead. But it is quite unlikely that the synchro operation on 639 kHz will be broken up, with the Liblice transmitter just 250 km away. Thus it indeed looks as if this transmitter will no longer be used. And if so it is rather unlikely that the 954 and 1332 kHz transmitters will continue either.

Probably this is related to the decision in regard to the CRo budget for 2016, as reported at <http://www.digizone.cz/clanky/analogovy-cesky-rozhlas-plus-vyjde-v-pristim-roce-na-desitky-milionu/>

If so it could indeed be that 270 kHz will be terminated, too. But this is so far entirely speculation. Last known situation was that the transmission contract for the current set-up, with the ex-Burg 261 kHz transmitter, is valid until 2017 (Kai Ludwig, Germany, Dec 30, *mwmasts yg via DXLD*)

Hi Chaps, Re the above posting and the perceived chance of "sorting out" the clash on 252 kHz I would guess that that approach would not be adopted by RTE as their plan has been to surely close the service to save PLH costs. So the interference currently experienced by DX listeners (ex-pats in UK) is ideal for RTE as they can use the degradation in service to say it's not worth running it anymore and advise listeners to use DAB, SKY audio channels, internet radio, etc., etc. Just a thought! 73 and HNY (Dave G40YX, Porter, *ibid.*)

RBB Radio Eins media programme now says they cannot verify the news regarding the closure.

France also still going strong after 0000 UT. Nice music. 73 HNY (Harald Kuhl, Gesendet: Freitag, 01. Januar 2016 um 00:28 Uhr, *ibid.*)

** EAST TURKISTAN. 5060, Dec 27 at 0052, weak signal but registering S9 vs the storm noise level, and definitely in Chinese, so it's Xinjiang PBS, Urumqi, which we also sometimes detect around our sunrise, and now this leads us to try the other three services on 60m, immediately finding weaker JBA carriers, as listed: 4980 Uighur, 4850 Kazakh, 4500 Mongolian. The Chinese-language service is first among equals, but 4980 is second (Glenn Hauser, OK, DX LISTENING DIGEST)

** EGYPT. 12070.0, Dec 26 at 0113, S4 very poor carrier, evidence that R. Cairo is still trying to transmit here.

9965.3, Dec 26 at 0119, open carrier, dead air except some whine, S8

9745.0, Dec 26 at 0208, S8 in Arabic? Distorted, just barely modulated

9315, still nothing whatsoever after 0200 for the scheduled English to North America. WRTH 2016 says it's on 9860 in B-15, which is one of the registered alternative frequencies, but never heard there either, yet. Must still keep an ear out for that one.

However, Clara Listensprechen sends me an mp3 file of the live-stream transmission of R. Cairo in English, starting with a timesignal, and timecheck as 01:15 local, 2315 GMT. There is lots of extraneous sound in the background, such as a dog barking right on cue after the timesignal! People yelling back and forth, doors slamming. Sounds like it's recorded in a home with no soundproofing, not a professional studio; and a continuous humbuzz, but quite tolerable compared to what they put on shortwave. Then news theme and news read by Mayar Adel. After 10 minutes, ``stay tuned for political commentary coming to you live from Studio 7''. Different YL speaker/reader, but same background distraxions. I've yet to listen to all of it, but quite an improvement over Cairo shortwave.

9860, Dec 27 at 0049, JBA music and talk, S6. Could it be Cairo active on this in Spanish? 12070 is also detectable, even weaker and not enough to make a //. If so, there's a chance 9860 would stay on past 0200 for the English sesquihour previously on 9315. Can anyone confirm that, further east? But 9860 is no longer audible here at 0135. 9860 could well be CRI from Jinhua site at 00-02. The Cairo Arabic frequency at 0050 was S7 but just barely modulated and not offset, 9965.0.

9860, Dec 28 before 0330, no sign of R. Cairo, English to western N America, as alleged in WRTH 2016 for 0200 UT.

I also listened to more of the `livestream` version of Cairo in English, recorded Dec 25-26, and found that the YL announcer with a

very heavy accent after news headlines closed the 2300 UT broadcast at about 2425 announcing the frequency as 9965, and that news times are ``1:15 and 2:25 Cairo local time`` = 2315 and 0025 UT; ``Merry Christmas and Happy New Year``. Just music played to fill out the sesquihour before switching to Arabic. May we assume there is no livestream version of any 0200 UT broadcast, which may no longer exist at all? (Glenn Hauser, OK, DX LISTENING DIGEST)

Hi Glenn, Here is a link to the 0200 UT English broadcast from Egypt. I'm hearing it right now as I type this at 0248, on December 29, 2015. It may not always be on this particular player, which is labeled in Arabic as the "Farsi" service.
<http://www.egradio.eg/radio.php?PubPnt=Faressy&ChnName=10>
(Bruce (NY, USA), dxldyg via DXLD)

Tnx, tried later but nothing happens and nothing to click on except ``get adobe flash player`` in Arabic. This is not the same source as above from live-stream, a private initiative? (Glenn Hauser, DX LISTENING DIGEST)

** EQUATORIAL GUINEA. 5005, Radio Bata, noted with Spanish talks and hilife at 1832, weak (David Sharp, NSW, Dec 23, Sent from David Sharp's iPhone, DX LISTENING DIGEST)

5005, Dec 24 I am checking periodically between 0516 and 0552, and never any trace of a carrier from RNGE; storm noise level from the Gulf coast is running about S5. Will be interesting to see whether Ron Howard was hearing any RNGE on this date (Glenn Hauser, OK, DX LISTENING DIGEST)

Hi Glenn, Dec 24, I was not at the beach at 0500+, but received this from Ralph Perry: "around 11 p.m. [Dec 24 UT] and tried the 0500+ [UT] appearance of Bata. And Bata was nada. Kept checking the fqy till about 0545. Judging from the nice signal you got [he had listened to my recording - Ron], when they are 'on' they ought to make it thru here to the Midwest," which would conform Glenn to your non-reception.

Dec 25 with random checking 0524-0611. Had the same results that you and Ralph had 24 hours earlier - no signal at all. Clearly off the air during my monitoring. So what is equally clear is the fact that RNGE/R. Bata is broadcasting erratically.

So I was fortunate to catch them Dec 23 with decent reception. My audio at
<https://app.box.com/s/j040w2khmmkiyymua93rb0xletbmvwpg>
of that reception, with a "Radio Nacional de Guinea Equatorial" ID at 0:51 (thanks to Ralph for confirming this ID). (Ron Howard, California, dxldyg via DX LISTENING DIGEST)

5005, Radio Nacional, Bata, 0545-0613, 27-12, Spanish and African songs "6 de la mañana con 48 minutos en Radio Bata", greeting and answering listeners letters, "felicitaciones al año nuevo, "La radio Bata, la estación continental", " las 6 de la mañana con 56 minutos"., at 0600 news, Spanish. Signal very clear, like years ago but at 0600 became very weak perhaps reducing power. 24443 but at 0600 14221. (Manuel Méndez, Lugo, Spain, Log in Friol, Enviado desde TypeMail, Dec 27, ibid.)

5004.998, R Nacional Guinea Ecuatorial (R Bata) is on air this morning Dec 28 around 0535-0600 UT, but really low signal on THRESHOLD, too tiny, no program details recognized so far. wb (Wolfgang B.schel, ibid.)

Hi Wolfy, We were listening at the same time, but perhaps my reception was slightly better than yours. Certainly was not a good day for them.

5005, RNGE/R. Bata, Dec 28 signed on around 0535; mostly monologue in Spanish; most distinct detail was African pop music 0559-0603; the weakest signal I have heard from them so far.

<https://app.box.com/s/tqosaf443hmobo9ytbt4crjh1bkokkjh>

contains my audio of just the music (Ron Howard, California, ibid.)

** ERITREA [non]. SECRETLAND(non), SPL Secretbrod Dimtse Radio Erena again on 11855, Dec 26:

1700-1730 11855 SCB 050 kW / 195 deg EAf Oromo, ex 11850, re-ex 11855

1730-1800 11855 SCB 050 kW / 195 deg EAf Arabic, ex 11850, re-ex 11855

<http://swldxbulgaria.blogspot.bg/2015/12/spl-secretbrod-dimtse-radio-arena-again.html>

-- 73! (Ivo Ivanov, B'lgariya, Dec 26, dxldyg via DXLD)

WRTH 2016 shows this station in Arabic and Tigrigna, not Oromo; Oromo is in Ethiopia (gh, DXLD)

SECRETLAND, relay Dimtse Radio Erena on unregistered frequency Dec 28

1700-1730 NF 11850 SCB 050 kW / 195 deg to EaAf Oromo, instead of registered 11855

1730-1800 NF 11850 SCB 050 kW / 195 deg to EaAf Arabic, instead of registered 11855

<http://swldxbulgaria.blogspot.bg/2015/12/spl-relay-dimtse-radio-arena-on.html>

73! (Ivo Ivanov, B'lgariya, dxldyg via DXLD)

WRTH 2016 says the 1700 broadcast is in Tigrigna, as you would expect for Eritrea, rather than Ethiopian language Oromo (gh, DXLD)

SPL relay BaBcoCk Dimtse Radio Erena, Dec 29:

1700-1730 NF 11850 SCB 050 kW / 195 deg to EaAf Oromo, ex 11855

1730-1800 NF 11850 SCB 050 kW / 195 deg to EaAf Arabic, ex 11855

The frequency 11850 kHz is registered in HFCC on Dec 29:

1700-1900 on 11850 SCB 050 kW / 030 deg to EaEu Russian

<http://swldxbulgaria.blogspot.bg/2015/12/spl-relay-babcock-dimtse-radio-erena.html>

-- 73! (Ivo Ivanov, QTH: Sofia, Bulgaria, Equipment: Sony ICF-2001D 30 m. long wire, dxldyg via DX LISTENING DIGEST) standard remark re Oromo

** ETHIOPIA [non]. FRANCE, Poor reception of Oromo Voice Radio & Radio Xoriyo Ogaden on Dec 21:

from 1600 17850 ISS 250 kW / 130 deg Afar Oromo Mon Oromo Voice Radio

from 1617 17850 ISS 250 kW / 130 deg English Mon Oromo Voice Radio

from 1620 17870 ISS 500 kW / 130 deg Somali Mon/Fri R Xoriyo Ogaden

<http://swldxbulgaria.blogspot.bg/2015/12/poor-reception-of-oromo-voice-radio.html>

(DX RE MIX NEWS #932 from Georgi Bancov and Ivo Ivanov, Dec 28, 2015, via DXLD)

** EUROPE. FRS Holland - Sunday 27th December

FRS' traditional Seasonal broadcast will be aired on Sunday December 27th. This year's broadcast will see a different approach in contrast with previous editions. FRS-Holland will be airing two 3 hour blocks. The first one will be between 0852-1200 UT/09:52-13:00 CET followed by an afternoon slot between 1252-1600 UT/13:52-17:00 CET. Frequencies remain unchanged: 7700 // 9300 kHz. There might be an evening slot in favour of North American listeners; if so details will be announced as soon as possible! Our seasonal programmes will be presented by Paul Graham, Jan van Dijk, Roger Davis, Dave Scott & Peter Verbruggen. The music of your life and more. We will ring out 2015 in a great way!

Streaming --- Choosing for the best of both worlds! FRSH goes for broadcasting on short wave in good old AM and digital high quality web streaming. You can make your choice out of two streams:

<http://laut.fm/jukebox> Sunday Dec. 27th 15-18 UT = 16-19 CET.

<http://nednl.net:8000/frsh.m3u> Sunday Dec. 27th 15-18-21 UT = 16-19-22

CET (two times in a row!). In addition there will be a repeat via

Laut.fm on Sunday January 2nd 17-20 UT = 18-21 CET. As an extra

service for mobile devices there is a 24 kbps mono stream via

<http://nednl.net:8000/frsh24.m3u>

QSL-cards --- Understandably reception reports and letters with comments are much appreciated and will be verified with a QSL card from our current series of FRS through the Years. Each QSL of this series shows an 'element' which played an important part in FRS' 35+ year life. Curious about the previously published QSLs from this series? Surf to

<http://www.frsholland.nl/frs-image-gallery/qsl-gallery/qsl-series.html>

E-mails please to frs@frsholland.nl and for an excellent large

format hard copy use our Herten maildrop: P.O.Box 2702, 6049 ZG Herten, the Netherlands. You can make your own choice and choose one of the 8 QSLs which have been offered so far in our long time running 'FRS-Holland Through the Years' series.

FRS-HOLLAND Programme-Schedule for Sunday December 27th 2015

UT	Programme Schedule
0900	Nonstop music
0922	Station-opening: ID's & Theme tune
0930	FRS Magazine - Peter Verbruggen with the best music from the past decades.
1000	German Show - Jan van Dijk. A brief retrospect to the music year 2015
1030	Dave Scott's Radiowaves featuring classic rock
1100	Sounds from the 80s. Paul Graham plays great (X-Mas) tunes from the 1980s era
1130	FRS Golden Show ñ Roger Davis. Uptempo and some times rare 60s & 70s (seasonal?) stuff.
1200	Close down

This schedule will be repeated 1300-1600 UT/14:00-17:00 CET. And perhaps in the evening. Important: for 'last minute news'(for instance frequency changes) watch this article!!

<http://www.frsholland.nl/20-latest-news/93-frs-seasonal-broadcast-2015.html>
Posted by: ("Dave kenny", Dec 26, BDXC-UK yg via DXLD)

Very good signal from FRS Holland at the moment (0940 UT) on 7700 kHz, also fair on 9300 - with Peter Verbruggen as per schedule above. 73s (Dave Kenny, Dec 27, ibid.)

Free Radio Service Holland on Dec 27, videos
<http://swldxbulgaria.blogspot.bg/2015/12/schedule-of-free-radio-service-holland.html>
-- 73! (Ivo Ivanov, Sofia, Bulgaria, dxldyg via DXLD)

** FRANCE. The Radio France website now has an article on the closure of mediumwave stations together with a link to their FM frequencies for each area.
<http://www.radiofrance.fr/extinction-des-ondes-moyennes>
Posted by: (Mike Barraclough, Dec 25, dxldyg via DXLD)

From that link: "Il sera suivi au 31/12/2016 de l'arrêt de la diffusion en ondes longues." Does this mean that Radio France will cease broadcasting on longwave at the end of 2016? Regards (Harald Kuhl, BDXC-UK yg via DXLD)

Exactly (Satnipper, ibid.)

Yes, that's a confirmation of what was said earlier this year. Presumably as for medium wave they will put in some additional FM outlets (Mike Barraclough, *ibid.*) Viz.:

EXTINCTION DES ONDES MOYENNES

A partir du 31 decembre 2015 `a 24h00, les emetteurs diffusant en ondes moyennes les programmes de Radio France cesseront definitivement d'emettre. Ces emetteurs diffusaient jusqu'`a present France Info, France bleu RCFM et France Bleu Elsass.

L'arret du mode de diffusion en ondes moyennes (au 31 decembre 2015), prevu dans le Contrat d'objectifs et de moyens de Radio France 2015 - 2019, vise `a adapter le mode de diffusion de nos antennes aux nouveaux usages et aux technologies d'aujourd'hui. La diffusion en ondes moyennes, procede mis en service entre 1937 et 1944, s'avere en effet aujourd'hui obsolete. Cette technique est de moins en moins integree dans les recepteurs par les industriels. Le nombre d'auditeurs `a l'ecoute des ondes moyennes est desormais marginal. L'arret du mode de diffusion en ondes moyennes participe egalement de la mise en oeuvre du plan d'economies prevu dans la trajectoire financiere de Radio France. Il sera suivi au 31/12/2016 de l'arret de la diffusion en ondes longues.

Pour toucher les publics sur tous les territoires et elargir l'audience des antennes, Radio France privilegie une amelioration de la diffusion en modulation de frequences, la FM demeurant le premier mode de consommation de la radio d'aujourd'hui.

Dans un contexte d'evolution des usages (un auditeur sur 7 ecoute Radio France sur un support connecte), Radio France investit egalement dans la distribution de toutes ses chaines et de tous ses programmes sur les terminaux connectes (smartphones, ordinateurs, tablettes, TV). et propose de nouveaux services tels que les webradios et les applications mobiles.

La couverture des auditeurs de France Bleu et de France Info dans les zones qui etaient couvertes par les ondes moyennes sera donc desormais assuree par la FM et internet ([cliquer ici pour consulter la liste des emetteurs FM](#)). (via Mike Cooper, WORLD OF RADIO 1806, DXLD)

The closing of MW stations in Germany and France is bad [and sad] for all of us TA DXers. There aren't many countries left besides UK and Spain (and many Spain stations have also shut down). This is what happens when government runs radio stations. Fortunately I have verified many of these stations (and all of these countries) over many years. Just a few years ago the AM band on most nights was crawling

with stations, and with good signals (Ben Dangerfield, Wallingford, PA, NRC-AM via WORLD OF RADIO 1806, DXLD)

This is the end of mediumwave --- in France. All MW transmitters will close down on Dec 31 2300 UT. Just a few days left to log those exotic stations: France Bleu Elsass on 1278 and France Bleu Frekuensi Mora on 1404 and 1494. They are low power stations, not so easy to catch even in the middle of France. A last chance to hear regional languages on MW. Apart from that the MW band is alive and well and still overcrowded. Season's greetings and 73 to all (Jean-Luc from central France, Fradet, Dec 28, MWCircle yg via DXLD)

No, it isn't the end of MW in France. Bretagne 5 is alive and kicking. And, OK, you may regard the France Bleu Corse Frekuensi Mora stations as low power outlets, but certainly not France Bleu Elsass. The SÈlestat transmitter sends out a solid 300 kW. It is well heard in many parts of Europe at night.

One thing I can tell you is that the local people at SÈlestat are glad the blasted thing shuts up at long last. A friend of mine who lives there recently told me that he is glad he will now be able to listen to his old LP records again, something he hasn't been able to do since he moved there 30 years ago because the record player demodulated the signal from the nearby transmitter.

If MW had been used with appropriate power, and only at times when specific programming is carried, then it would not have been so costly and Radio France would not have to drop it altogether. Regards, (RÈmy Friess, France, ibid.)

** GERMANY. Also closing many MW transmitters at yearend (Glenn Hauser, WORLD OF RADIO 1806, DX LISTENING DIGEST) As covered extensively in recent DXLDs

** GERMANY [and non]. Re: [SWEDEN] H^rby and S^lvesborg album #89

> two new Thomson- SW TX were installed and was in use until 1993
> when they became prohibited to use due to PCB in the insulation.

It's interesting that such a transmitter could in Norway, at Fredrikstad, be kept in operation until 1997. Especially so because too much PCB in the capacitors was the very reason for which the 800 kW mediumwave equipment at Langenberg had to be shut down at yearend 1993, too.

> Regarding to the MW TX in H^rby, it was so torn at the end so the
> technicians prayed every morning for it would startÖ.

In case it is not widely known yet where this transmitter ended up:
<http://funkerberg.de/museum/Sendersammlung/sendersammlung.htm>

It's a bit ironic, since an old Telefunken 100 kW transmitter, moved in from Berlin-Tegel, was in use also at Kⁿigs Wusterhausen until 1987 when it was replaced by a 2 x 20 kW Tesla set-up (for regular use, the very last time the old Telefunken had been switched on was in 1991).

In case someone wonders about the frequency: It was 882 kHz until Wachenbrunn took over this frequency after the completely failed attempt to establish a Wilsdruff/Wachenbrunn/Burg synchro operation on 1044 kHz. Afterwards Kⁿigs Wusterhausen took over 603 kHz from the Golm site which afterwards was only an aux (last used in 1992), complete with the Potsdam regional programming in the morning (its FM service started only after 1985, on a spare Berlin frequency plus an additional Dequede one). (Kai Ludwig, Germany, Dec 30, shortwave[sic]sites yg via DXLD)

** GERMANY. Very strong signal of Deutscher Wetterdienst, December 23 2000-2030 on 5905 PIN 010 kW / non-dir to CeEu English/German CUSB
<http://swldxbulgaria.blogspot.bg/2015/12/very-strong-signal-of-deutscher.html>
(DX RE MIX NEWS #932 from Georgi Bancov and Ivo Ivanov, Dec 28, 2015, via DXLD)

Reception of Deutscher Wetterdienst on December 28
0604-0630 5905 PIN 010 kW / non-dir CeEu Eng/Ge CUSB, excellent signal
1204-1230 5905 PIN 010 kW / non-dir CeEu German CUSB, very poor signal
2004-2030 5905 PIN 010 kW / non-dir CeEu German CUSB, very good signal
<http://swldxbulgaria.blogspot.bg/2015/12/reception-of-deutscher-wetterdienst-on.html>
-- 73! (Ivo Ivanov, B^lgariya, dxldyg via DXLD)

** GERMANY. Radio Channel 292 relays on December 27:
0900-1000 on 6070 ROB 010 kW / non-dir to CeEu English SuperClan R
1300-1700 on 6070 ROB 010 kW / non-dir to CeEu German Beatspektrum
1700-2300 on 6070*ROB 010 kW / non-dir to CeEu German Radio Marabu
* will be totally blocked by China Radio Int in Russian till 1900UT
<http://swldxbulgaria.blogspot.bg/2015/12/germany-radio-channel-292-relays-on.html>
-- 73! (Ivo Ivanov, B^lgariya, dxldyg via DX LISTENING DIGEST)

** GERMANY. RADIO GLORIA INTERNATIONAL
RGI ñ Alternative Music Radio
winterschedule 2015/16

Jan 24 - 2016	Feb 28 - 2016
Dec 27 - 2015	-every 4th Sunday of the month-

SW(KW)	UTC	German Time
9485	7-8	8-9
7265	8-9	9-10
9485	9-10	10-11
7310	10-11	11-12 + Internet Nshortwaveservice.com 7310
6005	16-17	17-18 + Internet Nshortwaveservice.com 6005
	16-18	17-19 Coloradio.org

or listen to the SW by
<http://websdr.ewi.utwente.nl:8901> (a service in NL)
 hp.: <http://rgi.fmkompakt.de>

RGI by "laut.fm/Jukebox:" December 2015
 Sunday 27 Dec. 1155-1355 UT
 Wed, 30 Dec. 17-19 UT (rep.)
 Sat, 2 Jan. 1155-1355 UT (rep.)

Good reception! Reports welcome! Andy
 (via Manuel M endez, Spain, Dec 26, dxldyg via DXLD)

** GERMANY [and non] NDR Hamburg "Greeting on board" on Dec 24, 2015
 1900-2100 on 6185 NAU 125 kW / 250 deg to Northern Atlantic, at 2000
 UT co-ch CRI Arabic
 1900-2100 on 9810 MOS 100 kW / 115 deg to Indian Ocean East
 1900-2100 on 9830 ISS 250 kW / 156 deg to Indian Ocean/SoAf
 1900-2100 on 9885 NAU 125 kW / 130 deg to Indian Ocean West
 1900-2100 on 11650 ISS 250 kW / 195 deg to Southern Atlantic
 2100-2300 on 6040 NAU 125 kW / 250 deg to Northern Atlantic
 2100-2300 on 9515 NAU 125 kW / 130 deg to Indian Ocean West
 2100-2300 on 9655 ISS 250 kW / 195 deg to Southern Atlantic
 2100-2300 on 9765 MOS 100 kW / 115 deg to Indian Ocean East
 2100-2300 on 9830 ISS 250 kW / 156 deg to Indian Ocean/SoAf
<http://swldxbulgaria.blogspot.bg/2015/12/ndr-hamburg-greeting-on-board-on.html>
 (DX RE MIX NEWS #932 from Georgi Bancov and Ivo Ivanov, Dec 28, 2015,
 via DXLD)

Here is are my Christmas loggings from Skovlunde done on the AOR
 AR7030PLUS with 28 metres of longwire:

6185.00, *1900-1920 24.12, NDR Hamburg 90.3 FM relayed by Nauen.
 German news and weather, 1904 "NDR Info 90.3" with "Gr ss an Bord" to
 83 German ships in the Atlantic and Indian Ocean. Song and audience
 clapping, interview about hospital treating sick seamen, song, "3
 netten Damen" sending greetings to family members at sea, Merry
 Christmas song, 45333. // Moosbrunn 9810 (55444), Issoudun 9830
 (45344), Nauen 9885 (15121) and Issoudun (55444) Best 73 and have some
 nice Holidays, (Anker Petersen, Denmark, via Dario Monferini, playdx
 yg via DXLD)

NDR Christmas program fading in now, 2025 UT, on 6185 (v.poor) & 9885 (Poor). Both, I believe are via Nauen, Germany (Stephen C Wood, Harwich, Mass., Dec 24, dxldyg via DX LISTENING DIGEST)

Yes, 2 x Nauen ==> maps

http://www.rhci-online.net/radiogram/VoA_Radiogram_2015-12-19.htm#GAB_2015
(roger, Hard-Core-DX mailing list via DXLD)

Grufl an Bord " or "Gruss an Bord" = Greetings on Board --- All 5 frequencies heard well via the Twente receiver (naturally) for the first transmission. For the second transmission beginning at 2100, the only frequency with a hint of audio here in New Brunswick was 6040 kHz. Let's see if reception improves (Richard Langley, 2118 UT Dec 24, dxldyg via DX LISTENING DIGEST)

Likewise 6040 only frequency with any audio here on Cape Cod at 2210. Sounds like church service (Stephen C Wood, *ibid.*)

Immediately after 2200, just when I checked the presence, they run a horribly sung "Stille Nacht". With these noisy and fading shortwave signals inavoidably the word "Weihnachtsringsendung" surfaced in my mind...

Yes, the whole thing is called "Grufl an Bord", which means "greetings to the ship" (means "on board" in English also sending something onto a ship?).

At quick check 2202, 9655 could not be confirmed from Central Europe, unlike the other four frequencies. They appeared to be more or less in synch, so presumably all three sites take the NDR Info Spezial signal from Astra 1M. By the way, a description of technical details I read somewhere mentioned HRS 4/4, antennas for Issoudun, indicating that no ALLISS units but the classic Centre E complex is in use there (Kai Ludwig, Germany, *ibid.*)

at 2245 UT the Issoudun tx 9655 kHz couldn't trace anymore, I guess the tx WAS totally OFF. 73 wb (Wolfgang B,schel, Stuttgart, *ibid.*)

It seems that 11650 kHz, the frequency it was supposed to use 1900-2100, did not make it on air either (Kai Ludwig, *ibid.*)

Re 11650 kHz signal missing, not so -- on excellent video snap by Ivo in Sofia Bulgaria; listen to 2nd tube recording at 00.44 m/s, you will heard a poor signal on 11650 kHz channel too. Thanks, Ivo. Greetings from Stuttgart to Felix DL5XL and his colleagues on ANTARCTIC research station downunder.

Bad condition in US east coast in 31 mb tonight, only REE Madrid 9690 kHz is on S=8-9 -74dBm signal level the 'lonely knight'.

Short checks of NDR Hamburg special Christmas transmission on remote units in Qatar and Greece show at 1930 UT Dec 24:
{farthest reception points on remote net}

9810 S=8 -81dBm
9885 S=7 -86dBm Freddy, Austrian Seamen at 1935 UT
9515 S=8 -81dBm
9765 S=9 -72dBm

6040 S=9 -73dBm
9515 S=6 -88dBm
9655 S=7 -83dBm
9765 S=9+10dB -63dBm
9830 S=9+10dB -63dBm

[selected SDR options, span 12.5 kHz RBW 15.3 Hertz]
wb df5sx (Wolfgang B,schel, dxldyg via DXLD)

Someone know if the radio station confirm? Eventually what is the email to send reception reports? Good 73 and Merry Christmas from north of Italy (Dario Gabrielli, Inviato dal mio dispositivo Huawei, dxldyg via DX LISTENING DIGEST)

Dear Dario, Try technik@ndr.de Regards, (Tony Ashar, West Java, Indonesia, Sent from my Android phone with mail.com Mail. Please excuse my brevity, ibid.)

Con probabilit  molto alta.
http://2.bp.blogspot.com/-ITKgZ15LkWG/VKh0gpAPr8I/AAAAAAAAAE0w/_Qw_AD08ZRE/s1600/P1190807%2B%282%29.JPG

http://www.ndr.de/der_ndr/technik/Technische-Teilnehmerberatung,hotlineindex100.html

technik@ndr.de

Consulenza tecnica di ascoltatori della radio
sinceramente (roger, dxldyg via DXLD)

Recorded 6040 kHz unattended as we went off to celebrate Wigilia at some Polish friends. On reviewing the recording today, I noted that reception did improve somewhat but even by the end of the program it was still rather noisy. Hopefully, reception was better in mid-Atlantic (-- Richard Langley, NB, Dec 25, ibid.)

Not much heard last year, but this year I'm trying again for Gruss an Bord, the yearly NDR special for German seafarers in the Atlantic and Indian Oceans (none in Pazifik?).

I must say, they do a fine job of keeping their signals out of deeply landlocked areas such as mine! Dec 24 at 2015, from the three different sites, Germany, France and Austria, I find no signals on 9810, 9885 or 11650; 9830 totally occupied as always in our daytimes by that usurping RTTY; the fifth frequency, which would be least likely to propagate that early, does have a JBA carrier, but it's slightly low at 6184.97 and I bet it's XEPPM on its secret daytime schedule. At 2048, I manage to detect JBA carriers on 9810, 9885.

GaB changes most of the frequencies for the second bihour at 2100, so at 2105 I check that batch: now nothing on 6040, 9765; JBA carriers on 9515 and 9655, and still nothing but heavy RTTY on 9830 --- not a problem circumEurope? Maybe some of these were skipping over Germany, not the target either anyway (Glenn Hauser, OK, DX LISTENING DIGEST)

NDR Hamburg "Greeting on board", [audio-]videos:
<http://swldxbulgaria.blogspot.bg/2015/12/ndr-hamburg-greeting-on-board-on.html>
-- 73! (Ivo Ivanov, QTH: Sofia, Bulgaria, Equipment: Sony ICF-2001D 30 m. long wire, ibid.)

6040, Norddeutscher Rundfunk "Groß an Bord" relay (Nauen?). 2132-2400* December 24, 2015. Just beginning to fade in, good level by 2210. German church services and choir, ID, contact information, phone number etc. at 2214. After 2300, news and announcements-type magazine format with brief music interludes through conclusion of the annual Christmas/eve broadcast. 9675 audible at 2334 check, clear but poor. Unidentified ChiCom alone on channel once NDR closed.

9885, Norddeutscher Rundfunk "Groß an Bord" relay (Nauen?). 2046 December 24, 2015. Very weak with German church services and choir. Carrier on 6185, but no audio and that could have been someone else (Terry L. Krueger, All times/dates GMT, NRD-535, IC-R75, roof dipole, active loop u.o.s., Clearwater, FL u.o.s., DX LISTENING DIGEST)

It was all supposed to be over at 2300 UT (gh, DXLD)

** GOA. 11740, INDIA-GOA AIR (Panaji) at 2215 // 9445 and 11670 with the end of a commentary and a woman with ID then iWomen's Worldî at 2216 ñ Very Good Dec 27 ñ this was armchair copy and the best I have heard them in a long time. It bodes well for those who want to log this one for the upcoming January Shortwave DX Challenge - ed (Mark Coady-ON, ODXA YRX via DXLD)

** GOA. AIR Panaji back on SW --- For the record, the 2 x 250 kW SW

transmitters at AIR Panaji are now back on air. For some weeks their frequencies were substituted by 500 kW transmitters in Bengaluru which no doubt provided better reception. The original B-15 schedule of AIR is now in force. Yours sincerely, (Jose Jacob, VU2JOS, National Institute of Amateur Radio, Hyderabad, India Mobile: +91 94416 96043 http://www.qsl.net/vu2jos_dx_india_yg_via_DXLD)

But as of what date, and what frequencies involved, exactly? (Glenn Hauser, DXLD)

** GREECE. Voice of Greece again on shortwave on Dec 23 as follows, all on 9420 AVL 170 kW / 323 deg to WeEu

0700-0800 Greek and other languages, Serbian, Romanian, Spanish, Polish, Italian, Russian, Arabic & Albanian missing
[we can't tell which ones you mean were missing --- only Albanian?]
0800-0905 Greek
0905-0910 Arabic/Italian, ex-Polish
0910-1005 Greek
1005-1015 Romanian/Serbian/Russian
1015-1105 Greek
1105-1110 Spanish/Polish, ex-Italian/Albanian missing
1110-1200 Greek
1200-1300 Greek, relay ERT 1 (Proto Programa)
from 1300 Greek, instead [OF!] English 1300-1305 UT
from 1305 Greek and continues how many hours?
http://swldxbulgaria.blogspot.bg/2015/12/voice-of-greece-is-again-on-shortwave_23.html
(DX RE MIX NEWS #932 from Georgi Bancov and Ivo Ivanov, Dec 28, 2015, via DXLD)

Voice of Greece was back on SW after 5 days absence:
from 2030 on 9420 AVL 170 kW / 323 deg to WeEu Greek, Dec 28
<http://swldxbulgaria.blogspot.bg/2015/12/voice-of-greece-was-back-on-sw-dec28.html>
-- 73! (Ivo Ivanov, B'lgariya, dxldyg via DXLD)

The somewhat irregular Voice of Greece is on tonight (at 0325 UT as I enter this) with an S9+40dB signal on about 9420.004 kHz via Twente.

IS, anthem, and ID at 0400 UT, beginning the day's transmission. The signal subsequently deteriorated between about 0415 and 0535 UT and then came back to good levels, continuing until 0707:27 UT with an abrupt end of transmission (Richard Langley NB UT Dec 29, *ibid.*)

Yes, in several random chex I have not found it for several days/nights (gh, DXLD)

Voice of Greece was back again on shortwave on December 29

1500-2110 on 9420 AVL 170 kW / 323 deg to WeEu Greek, co-ch CNR-17
<http://swldxbulgaria.blogspot.bg/2015/12/voice-of-greece-was-back-again-on.html>
-- 73! (Ivo Ivanov, QTH: Sofia, Bulgaria, Equipment: Sony ICF-2001D 30
m. long wire, dxldyg via DX LISTENING DIGEST)

** GREENLAND. What I believe to be Qeqertarsuaq = Godhavn from
Greenland on 650 kHz was audible, initially at good strength, at tune
in 0740 UT.
<http://maps.google.com/maps/@69.243417,-53.526972,17z>

A talk was in progress in a language I did not recognise - not Danish.
I've never heard their IS which has been listed in the WRTH for years
as "Sonja Drags Whale" and I mistakenly thought today was the day. But
of course it faded out before the hour. I also think it's this station
that I heard several times earlier in December at around this same
time, but then it was much weaker.

Usually I expect to hear CKGA Gander, Newfoundland, which is one of
the affiliates of VOXM 590 making it easy to ID, but neither were
propagating today, and CKGA has been elusive this winter (Noel R.
Green (NW England), Dec 26, dxldyg via WORLD OF RADIO 1806, DX
LISTENING DIGEST)

Hi Noel, Greenland was probably what you heard. It had a very good
signal on and off on the Ireland DXtuners site from when I first heard
it around 0200. 570 was also there yesterday but not as strong as 650.
Regards (Tony Magon, VK2IC, Dec 26, dxldyg via WORLD OF RADIO 1806, DX
LISTENING DIGEST)

Referring to Noel's comments about Greenland, I guess that the IS is
no longer in use, as they now are 24 hrs. In the 80's I was a
technical teacher at KNR in their old Radio Building, and made a
couple of 'direct' recordings, including this attached one with the
Interval Signal and start of programs at 07 local with the time
signal, IDs in Greenlandic and Danish, dated April 17, 1985. Enjoy! 73
(Erik Koie, Holte/Copenhagen /erik@koie.dk att to the dxldyg via DXLD)

** GUAM. Strong signal of KTWR in DRM mode(undecoded) on December 28:
1215-1245 on 9975 TWR 060 kW / 285 deg to SoAs English Mon/Fri/Sat
<http://swldxbulgaria.blogspot.bg/2015/12/strong-signal-of-ktwr-in-drm.html>
-- 73! (Ivo Ivanov, B'lgariya, dxldyg via DXLD)

** GUATEMALA. 4055, R. Verdad, presumed, mostly carrier at 1015 but
snippets of music getting through, t-storm QRN (David Sharp, NSW, Dec
24, Sent from David Sharp's iPhone, DX LISTENING DIGEST)

** INDIA. Status of AIR DRM transmitter installations by Nautel
company. 75% of Installations Now on Air! To date the following units

are on air:

NX300 systems at Jammu, Jalandhar, Lucknow, Rajkot and Dibrugarh.

NX200 systems at Bengaluru, Jabalpur, Chennai, Ajmer, Dharwad, Siliguri and Delhi.

NX100 systems at Panaji, Pune, Vijayawada, Tiruchirappalli, Kolkata A, Patna, Varanasi and Mumbai A & B.

The first transmitter, an NX200, shipped on August 27, 2013. This flagship installation in Delhi went on air (819 kHz) on May 30, 2014.

Installations about to begin:

NX300 system at Suratgarh

NX200 systems at Ahmedabad

All Shipments Were Completed in Under a Year

August, 2013: NX200 shipped to Delhi.

August, 2013: three NX300's shipped to Jammu, Jalandhar, and Lucknow.

December, 2013: four NX100's shipped to Vijayawada, Tiruchirappalli, Patna, and Varanasi.

January, 2014: four NX200's shipped to Chennai, Bengaluru, Dharwad and Ajmer.

March, 2014: four NX100's shipped to Mumbai A, Mumbai B, Panaji and Pune.

April, 2014: three NX300's shipped to Dibrugarh, Rajkot and Suratgarh.

June, 2014: five NX200's shipped to Kolkata A, Ahmedabad, Jabalpur, Siliguri and Itanagar.

July, 2014: three NX100's shipped to Kolkata B, Ranchi and Pasighat.

Source: Nautel Canada (Alokesh Gupta, India, DXindia Dec 25 via BC-DX 26 Dec via DXLD)

** INDIA. 13710, Dec 24 at 1408, AIR GOS, good signal with Indian classical music, always enjoyable, and NO CCI from CRI English via Kashgar, which is usually the case after 1400. Checked here after hearing it on weaker 9690, and then find the third frequency, 11620, totally inaudible; is it off? 1419 outro music and plug the ``brand-new`` AIR GOS website (Glenn Hauser, OK, DX LISTENING DIGEST)

** INDIA. Special broadcast of AIR on 27 Dec 2015 --- The broadcast to the Nation iMann Ki Baatî by Shri. Narendra Modi, Hon'ble Prime Minister of India will be broadcast tomorrow Sunday 27 Dec 2015 at 0530-0600 UTC (1100-1130 am IST). It is the 15th edition of the program. All stations of AIR will relay this program on MW/SW/FM.

Look out on the following additional frequencies also (which were heard last time)

9870 Bengaluru

9940 Delhi

11850 Delhi?

17715 Delhi

(The above frequencies are off at this time normally) The broadcast can be heard at the same time in the following website (and others)

<http://pmonradio.nic.in/>

Yours sincerely, (Jose Jacob, VU2JOS, National Institute of Amateur Radio, Dec 26, dx_india yg via DXLD)

Dear DX-friends, 17715, AIR Delhi, 0535-0556*, Sunday Dec 27, Speech by the Honorable Prime Minister of India, Shri. Narendra Modi in the Broadcast to the Nation iMann Ki Baati in Hindi and English, 0554 ann by female, Indian song, closing ann by female, weak signal 25322. Thanks to Jose Jacob. This was the only AIR frequency audible in Denmark at that time (Anker Petersen, ibid.)

** INDIA [and non]. 9870, Dec 28 at 1415, AIR Vividh Bharati via Bengaluru with familiar march theme, for news break? Heavy CCI from CRI English via Xian (Glenn Hauser, OK, DX LISTENING DIGEST)

** INDIA [and non]. <http://qsl.net/vu2jos/sw/freq.htm>
Noted here in Europe AIR DRM screen block on 7550 kHz at 1750 UT wideband digital 7545.163 to 7554.913 kHz. wb (Wolfgang B.schel, dxldyg via WORLD OF RADIO 1806, DX LISTENING DIGEST)

DRM from India on 7550 kHz was observed on Dec 28 at 1725 UT, over Radio Ranginkaman/Radio Rainbow till 1730, video later today -- 73! (Ivo Ivanov, QTH: Sofia, Bulgaria, dxldyg via WORLD OF RADIO 1806, DX LISTENING DIGEST) See also SRI LANKA 7550

A half-hour later (1830 UT), in Eastern Newfoundland, I am hearing the AIR 7550 dual-channel DRM with 100% decoding. Likewise the RRI 7350 DRM is nearly 100%. But I may be too late for the Voice of Nigeria DRM on 15120 -- I'm getting no signal at all. (Philip Hiscock, dxldyg via WORLD OF RADIO 1806, DX LISTENING DIGEST)

** INDONESIA. 3904.93v, Pro 1 RRI Merauke on Dec 25 found on a lower frequency than recently heard; Xmas songs; off with "Pulau Ambon" (Island of Ambon)/"Love Ambon" and ID at 1502*; another day of very decent reception (Ron Howard, Asilomar State Beach, CA, EtUn E1, antenna: 100' long wire, dxldyg via DX LISTENING DIGEST)

** INDONESIA. 9524.981, V of Indonesia English service from Cimanggis, poor S=6 signal, noted in Qatar Perseus remote post at 1235 UT Dec 28. Young lady singer, mix of Indonesian and Pacific South Sea song,

smooth and sweet. 73 wb (Wolfgang B.schel, dxldyg via DXLD)

English supposed to be after 1300, not before; remains nothing but a JBA carrier here (Glenn Hauser, OK, DXLD)

Much better modulation of Voice of Indonesia on Dec 29, but not 100%

1700-1800 on 9525 JAK 250 kW / 290 deg to WeEu Spanish

1800-1900 on 9525 JAK 250 kW / 290 deg to WeEu German

1900-2000 on 9525 JAK 250 kW / 290 deg to WeEu English

2000-2100 on 9525 JAK 250 kW / 290 deg to WeEu French

<http://swldxbulgaria.blogspot.bg/2015/12/much-better-modulation-of-voice-of.html>

-- 73! (Ivo Ivanov, QTH: Sofia, Bulgaria, Equipment: Sony ICF-2001D 30

m. long wire, dxldyg via DX LISTENING DIGEST)

** IRAN [non]. R. Ranginkaman/Rainbow via SPL and BaBcoCk, open carrier on Dec 25:

1700-1730 7460 SCB 100 kW / 090 deg WeAs Persian Mon/Fri, off at 1710

1700-1730 7550 TAC 100 kW / 236 deg WeAs Persian Mon/Fri, off at 1710

<http://swldxbulgaria.blogspot.bg/2015/12/rranginkamanrainbow-via-spl-and-babcock.html>

Reception of Radio Ranginkaman/Radio Rainbow in Persian on Dec 28:

1700-1730 7460 SCB 100 kW / 090 deg Mon/Fri mixing with BVB from 11700

1700-1730 7550 TAC 100 kW / 236 deg Mon/Fri co-ch AIR in DRM from 1725

http://swldxbulgaria.blogspot.bg/2015/12/reception-of-radio-ranginkamanrainbow_29.html

-- 73! (Ivo Ivanov, B'lgariya, dxldyg via DXLD)

** ITALY. Test broadcast of Radio Latino, Dec 26:

1200-1428 on 7590 unknown transmitter in Italy to Europe

<http://swldxbulgaria.blogspot.bg/2015/12/test-broadcast-of-radio-latino-dec26.html>

-- 73! (Ivo Ivanov, B'lgariya, Dec 26, dxldyg via DXLD)

** ITALY. Next test broadcasts of Marconi Radio International will be:

0800-1100 11389.7 ????.03 kW / non-dir to WeEu En/Sp/It on December 25

0900-1300 11389.7 ????.03 kW / non-dir to WeEu En/Sp/It on December 27

http://swldxbulgaria.blogspot.bg/2015/12/the-next-test-broadcasts-of-marconi_24.html

(DX RE MIX NEWS #932 from Georgi Bancov and Ivo Ivanov, Dec 28, 2015, via DXLD)

Fair to good signal of Marconi Radio International on Dec.25

Videos at 0844 and 0902UT with DX pxs in English and Italian

http://swldxbulgaria.blogspot.bg/2015/12/the-next-test-broadcasts-of-marconi_24.html

-- 73! (Ivo Ivanov, QTH: Sofia, Bulgaria, Equipment: Sony ICF-2001D 30

m. long wire, dxldyg via DXLD)

** ITALY [non]. SECRETLAND(non), SPL Secretbrod relay IRRS various programs on December 25:
1900-2000 7290 SCB 100 kW / 306 deg WeEu English Fri, instead R.City.
And surprisingly 1939-1959 UT IRRS relay Glenn Hauser's World of Radio #1805!
<http://swldxbulgaria.blogspot.bg/2015/12/spl-secretbrod-relay-irrs-various.html>
(Ivo Ivanov, B'lgriya, dxldyg via WORLD OF RADIO 1806, DXLD)

** ITALY [non]. EUROPEAN MUSIC RADIO NECESITA AYUDA
Publicado el 27 diciembre 2015 13:39 por EA4-0003

Tom Taylor, de European Music Radio, est. interesado en comprobar la calidad de recepci n de los programas de IRRS a trav s del emisor de Kostinbrod, en Bulgaria. Por lo visto, IRRS ha substituido el emisor de Ruman a por  ste.

Me ha pedido que compruebe la calidad de la se al de IRRS los viernes, s bados y domingos a partir de las 1900 UT por los 7290 KHz. Y me ha pedido tambi n si puedo hacer llegar su petici n a otros diexistas. Por ello os escribo.

Si alguien tiene tiempo y ganas, que haga la comprobaci n y le env e un simple correo electr nico a Tom. Su direcci n es emrsw@sky.com.

 Muchas gracias de su parte y feliz entrada de a o!
(Artur Fernandez Llorella, AER.org via DXLD) AFAIK, EMR is in English, not Spanish, so why doesn't he ask in English? (gh, DXLD)

** JAPAN. 774, NHK Akita, 1415, good with cochannel nulled; English language course being presented, show ended at 1430 then back to Japanese with male announcer and Tokyo mentioned 2x (David Sharp, NSW, Dec 29, Sent from David Sharp's iPhone, DX LISTENING DIGEST)

** JAPAN [non]. 9855, Dec 24 at 2035, undermodulated S9 signal in French, thought they IDed as RFI, but by 2053 when they are talking about Japon and interspersing bits of Japanese, I reconsider: yes, it's NHK in French via MADAGASCAR during this semihour (Glenn Hauser, OK, DX LISTENING DIGEST)

** JAPAN [non?]. 9830, Dec 27 at 0058, surprised to hear NHK IS and IDs in Japanese and English, as frequent bandscanning around this hour has never encountered it before. No program ever starts, just IS & IDs continuing at further chex past 0102, 0107; 0136 but weakening. Not scheduled here in HFCC or Aoki, instead CNR1 non-jammer from Beijing, but no sign of it. NHK apparently testing, from where? FWIW, NHK was stronger than other frequencies direct from China on 31m (Glenn Hauser, OK, WORLD OF RADIO 1806, DX LISTENING DIGEST)

** KIRIBATI. 1440, Radio Kitibati, 0914, fair after cochannel nulled; usual selection of island music with woman announcer (David Sharp, NSW, Dec 29, Sent from David Sharp's iPhone, DX LISTENING DIGEST)

** KOREA NORTH. P5, NORTH KOREA. Reports indicate that Dom, 3Z9DX, has left North Korea sometime on December 22nd. He had agreed before operating to leave his equipment behind in Pyongyang. During his few days of operating Dom made 785 QSOs (742 Unique callsigns) all on SSB between 0009z, December 20th, and 0847z, December 21st. Band used: 127/20m, 566/15m and 91/10m. Continents worked are: 1/AF, 0/AN, 591/AS, 75/EU, 26/NA, 83/OC and 8/SA. The log and breakdown can be viewed on ClubLog at:

<https://secure.clublog.org/charts/?c=P5/3Z9DX>

The next activity is planned for February 2016, possibly from another location. QSL via ClubLog's OQRS, it is the best and fastest way to receive a QSL card (Ohio/Penn DX Bulletin No. 1246, December 28, 2015, Editor Tedd Mirgliotta, KB8NW, Provided by BARF80.ORG (Cleveland, Ohio), Written From Murfreesboro TN (in between playing with Grand-Kids), Sent From Murfreesboro TN, via Dave Raycroft, ODXA yg via DXLD)

** KOREA NORTH. Re ? No main electricity power available - or what happened in KRE? (Rumen Pankov)

> Yes, as usual during strong cold weather winter months,
> no main circuit electricity available there in the D.P.R.
> on various locations ?

KOREA D.P.R. quick check at 16 UT on Dec 27, in remote net units at greater Tokyo, eastern Thailand, and Brisbane Australia:

missed, - not on air Dec 27:

on 2350* 3920* 3959* 3968* 3980* 6070* 6400* 11680* kHz.

Latter 11680 kHz Pyongyang channel skipped in northern hemisphere, only heard downunder in Queensland Australia unit! (Wolfgang B,schel, wwdxc BC-DX TopNews Dec 27 via DXLD)

** KOREA NORTH. 9665.000, Korean KCBS Pyongyang, martial army soldier songs chorus S=7 - not much strong these days. N o t h i n g \ \ of same service 11680 kHz (Wolfgang B,schel, logs in 0430-0530 UT Dec 30 in Japan, remote SDR units, dxldyg via DX LISTENING DIGEST)

KCBS Pyongyang --- 6100, 1424 28 DEC - SINPO = 25322. Korean, drama, overacting by male and female characters. Narrated by female announcer. QSB=moderate rate. modulation somewhat muffled, low fidelity. sf106.1, a11, k2, geomag: quiet. 250kw, Omni, bearing 318 . Sangean ATS505 w/DEGEN 31MS active loop in south facing window. Received at Las Vegas, United States, 9445KM from transmitter at

Kanggye. Local time: 0624 (Rodney Johnson, NV, dxldyg via DX LISTENING DIGEST)

KOREA D.P.R. and KOREA REPUBLIC, re: Korea North 6400 & 11680 kHz. Hi dear Rumen, checked the KRE / KOR stations in 1830 to 1910 UT time slot on Dec 22, used remote SDR net units in Tokyo, Osaka, and Okayama Japan. Pause break - nothing noted at 1845 UT on Dec 22 on 2350 2850 3920 3959 3968 3980 5830 6070 6100 6400 6518 9665 11680 kHz.

3219.899 KRE Carrier only 1830 UT, S=9+30dB in Tokyo
3250.002 KRE PBS Korean, female singer, 1834 UT, S=9+30dB
3319.997 KRE PBS Korean, 1835 UT, S=9+40dB
3912.004 KOR VoP, KRE jamming, 1837 UT, S=9+40dB
3985.021 KOR EoH/VoH, KRE jamming, 1840 UT, S=9+40dB
4449.991 KOR VoP, KRE jamming on 4449.931 kHz, 1842 UT, S=9+50dB
4557.000 KOR VoP, KRE Jamming, 1845 UT, S=9+40dB
6003.018 ??? two peaks - also on 6002.988 kHz at 1850 UT.
6015.000 poor KRE jamming only, 1858 UT (6020 CHN Firedrake)
6135.008 and 6134.983 UNID two peaks, VoF KOR, KRE jamming ? 1858 UT.
6169.997 KRE S=9+10dB
6250.004 KOR / KRE S=9+10dB
6348.032 KOR S=9+20dB, and ditler audio signal jamming by KRE.
6600.000 KOR S=9+10dB, jamming by KRE.

KRE log on 0100-0130 UT Dec 23 in Tokyo and Nagoya remote SDR units:

6100.000 KRE KCBS Pyongyang from Kanggye, S=8-9, 0126 womans chorus
6518.004 KOR VoPeople Kyonggi-do Koyang NOT heard,
only KRE scratching noise jamming heard so far, S=7 at 0130 UT.
9665.003 KRE KCBS Pyongyang from Kanggye, S=8-9, at 0105 UT \\ 6100
kHz (Wolfgang B.schel, wwdxc BC-DX TopNews Dec 22 / 23, DXLD)

KOREA D.P.R. But at crash-start before 2329:30 UT a new signal string appeared on 7590 kHz even channel, and heard North Korean scratching noise intermodulation underneath.

Both V of KOREA in Japanese on 7580 kHz S=9+40dB powerhouse, and less strong VOK, Korean of KCBS Pyongyang program on lowersideband 7570 kHz channel started in \\ originate in producing - at same txion center - an intermodulation between 7580 and 7570 kHz channels, latter Korean program + some noise scratching heard combined also on upper sideband 7590 kHz channel (Wolfgang B.schel, Dec 29, dxldyg via WORLD OF RADIO 1806, DXLD)

** KOREA NORTH [non]. new 5910, Shiokaze/Sea Breeze via Yamata (Japan), 1324, Dec 25. Back to one of their alternate frequencies; in Korean; no jamming here, as it was their first day here, but N. Korean jamming (pulsating noise) was still on Shiokaze's former frequency of

5985, mixing with Myanmar Radio (Ron Howard, Asilomar State Beach, CA, EtŮn E1, antenna: 100' long wire, dxldyg via DX LISTENING DIGEST)

5910, Dec 26 at 1302, poor signal with piano music and YL in presumed Korean as listed, tho my first impression was Japanese, anyhow Shiokaze from JAPAN on its latest frequency change as first reported by Ron Howard yesterday, ex-5985. And today he says the other broadcast, far too late at 1600 for us to hear on 6 MHz band, has moved from 5910 to 5955 (Glenn Hauser, OK, DX LISTENING DIGEST)

New 5955 - Shiokaze noted Dec 26 at 1610, with no jamming. Former frequency of 5910 still jammed with pulsating noise from N. Korea. (Ron Howard, CA, Dec 26, dxldyg via DX LISTENING DIGEST)

JAPAN, Frequency changes of Shiokaze Sea Breeze from December 25
1300-1400 NF 5910 YAM 300 kW / 280 deg to NEAs various, ex 5985, not recorded today
1600-1700 NF 5955 YAM 300 kW / 280 deg to NEAs various, ex 5910, co-ch RRI Ukr/Serb
<http://swldxbulgaria.blogspot.bg/2015/12/frequency-changes-of-shiokaze-sea.html>
-- 73! (Ivo Ivanov, B'lgariya, dxldyg via DXLD)

5910, Shiokaze/Sea Breeze via Yamata, 1327-1400*,
Dec 29. Another special program that was different from yesterday's jazz and classical music program; today with two announcers before an audience (applause heard); in Japanese and playing many songs and "Auld Lang Syne" in Japanese; fair reception with no jamming. N. Korea jamming NOT heard today on Shiokaze's former frequency of 5985.

Also: 5955, Shiokaze/Sea Breeze via Yamata, 1606, Dec 29. Sounded like a repeat of the 1300-1400 program; no jamming here either.

My audio of 5955 at -
<https://app.box.com/s/em9mzh87dam127fxv4z2gkhr4sa3bmu9>

Will be interesting to see what happens on Thursday! Will they have a special show in English, or more likely that will be preempted (Ron Howard, Asilomar State Beach, CA, EtŮn E1, antenna: 100' long wire, dxldyg via DX LISTENING DIGEST)

** KOREA NORTH [non]. UZBEKISTAN, Voice of Martyrs with English program on December 29
1630-1800 on 7520 TAC 100 kW / 070 deg to NEAs Korean(Eng 1710-1720):
<http://swldxbulgaria.blogspot.bg/2015/12/voice-of-martyrs-with-english-program.html>
-- 73! (Ivo Ivanov, QTH: Sofia, Bulgaria, Equipment: Sony ICF-2001D 30 m. long wire, dxldyg via DX LISTENING DIGEST)

** KOREA SOUTH. 4885, Echo of Hope-VOH, 1449-1532+ 21 Dec. Fair with Korean chat, singing jingle & chimes at 1458/1525, news/commentary after 1500.

22 Dec. 1440-1500+ with similar programming (more "gossipy" style chat) + schedule/frequencies given after ID/chimes at 1459.

24 Dec. 1529-1550+ Christmas carols in Korean ("1st Noel", "Jingle Bells") and English ("Silver Bells", "We Wish You A Merry Christmas" [the "Figgy Pudding" song]) & several "Merry Christmas" mentions.

4885 still unjammed while 3985/6003/6348 are usually about 40/60 with the NK roaring jammer & a festive "thanks" to Ron Howard for completing my "V-O-mumble-mumble" ID on the 21st (Dan Sheedy, Moonlight Beach, CA, E5/6m X wire, DX LISTENING DIGEST)

Weak and poor reception of Echo of Hope on December 23 from 1632 on 4885 HWA 100 kW / non-dir to NEAs Korean, new additional frequency <http://swldxbulgaria.blogspot.bg/2015/12/weak-and-poor-reception-of-clandestine.html>
(DX RE MIX NEWS #932 from Georgi Bancov and Ivo Ivanov, Dec 28, 2015, via DXLD)

4885 Voice of Hope (presumed), 1717, very strong with talk by Korean woman (David Sharp, NSW, Dec 23, Sent from David Sharp's iPhone, DX LISTENING DIGEST)

4885, Dec 29 at 1302, very poor signal in Korean, so seems Echo of Hope is here to stay; is it jammed yet? Reads S3 in SSB, S6 in AM on the R-75, i.e. S-readings don't mean much in any absolute sense, but useful comparing to others (Glenn Hauser, OK, DX LISTENING DIGEST)

Hi Glenn, 4885 with Echo of Hope VOH, as of Dec 29, has not been jammed yet. After 1300, I have good reception here in California, per this recent audio, with their ID jingle and dramatization in Korean (0:22 "drama" on recording).
<https://app.box.com/s/z5peb68ty67asemc57pj0sdmvmcmee7nf>
(Ron Howard, CA, dxldyg via DX LISTENING DIGEST)

** KURDISTAN [non]. UNIDentified station with Arabic music and Denge Kurdistan on 9400 kHz
0905-0915 on 9400 ERV 300 kW / 192 deg to WeAs Kurdish Denge Kurdistan
0905-0915 on 9400 unknown transmitter site Arabic music UNIDentified:
http://swldxbulgaria.blogspot.bg/2015/12/unidentified-station-with-arabic-music_29.html
-- 73! (Ivo Ivanov, B'lgariya, dxldyg via DXLD) So a try at jamming?

** KYRGYZSTAN. 4009.85, Kyrgyz Radio, noted in passing with news or

similar at 1705 (David Sharp, NSW, Dec 23, Sent from David Sharp's iPhone, DX LISTENING DIGEST)

** LIBYA. Re 15-51: Mark Connelly, WA1ION, log: Libya was always 1053.+101 Hertz in past 3 months. Wb (Wolfgang B.schel, DX LISTENING DIGEST)

** LUXEMBOURG. Tail slate for Marnach [like a movie clapper??]
RTL Group "Backstage" BCE, Luxembourg 22 December 2015
https://backstage.rtlgroup.com/public/htm/en/Dailynews_FS.aspx?id=dailynews_217D39B92ECA4F70B3DACD6C85031415&newsdate=22122015

On 1 January 2016, the medium-wave transmitter site will finally close its doors after almost 60 years in operation, during which it gave generations of listeners their first taste of rock and pop and an opportunity to explore these new genres of music.

The now cult English-language station Radio Luxembourg broadcast on the famous "Two-O-Eight", a medium-wave frequency of 208 metres, until 1991. Its programmes were not only picked up in the UK, but also reached Scandinavia and even parts of Eastern Europe, where they had a lasting impact. Medium-wave broadcasts of the English programme were initially transmitted from the site in Junglinster, starting on 15 January 1951, and joined by programmes in Dutch in 1953. But on 14 December 1956, these broadcasts were moved to Marnach to guarantee better signal reception, primarily in the UK and Scandinavia. On 15 July 1957, Radio Luxemburg's day-time German-language programmes followed suit, becoming the success story we all know today.

The antennas erected on the high ground at Marnach in northern Luxembourg transmitted daily broadcasts to millions of listeners. However, the advent of FM broadcasts, offering superior listening comfort, gradually eroded the appeal of medium-wave transmissions, which goes some way towards explaining why broadcasts of medium-wave radio programmes were gradually abandoned. Nonetheless, the Marnach site managed to hang on to customers like Radio China International, which continued to appreciate the tremendous range covered by medium-wave transmissions.

In 2014, the Luxembourg government concluded an agreement with CLT-UFA on the site's closure under the terms of which the land it covered would be acquired by State. Meanwhile, the sites at Junglinster, Beidweiler and Hosingen continue transmitting long-wave, short-wave and FM radio broadcasts.

Eugène Muller, Head of Technical Services and Transmissions at BCE, says: "The closure of this site devoted to medium-wave transmissions marks the end of a major chapter in our history. Indeed, thanks to the

English-language broadcasts by Radio Luxembourg and the German-language programmes of Radio Luxemburg, Marnach became a kind of umbilical cord linking us to millions of listeners in Europe."

The national anthem of Luxembourg will be broadcast for the last time on medium waves on 1 January at 01:00.

(Link from James Robinson on <http://mediumwave.info/news.html>)

Posted by: (Mike Terry, dxldyg via WORLD OF RADIO 1806, DXLD)

There is a confused statement towards the end of the article implying that the Junglinster SW service is still broadcast. Other than that it is a good article. 73 and 88 (Dan Goldfarb, mwmasts yg via DXLD)

208 closedown tonight - special programme just announced!

Mike Knight just wrote this evening on the Radio Luxembourg 208 fans Facebook Group:

``I have just been informed that TONIGHT at midnight UK time (1 am CET) the Mike Hollis produced closedown from 1991 (which I recently edited) will be played on 1440 kHz/208m !!! - on the final day that 208 will be on air - you will have on last chance to listen to the famous 208 DJs on that famous frequency before they switch it off. Huge thanks to my friends at RTL for arranging this - you know who you are. Wow! - I am so happy that RTL are doing this`` Posted by: (Mike Terry, Dec 30, dxldyg via DXLD)

Just listening to this right now. Still got the Luxy distortion and fade. Gosh, what we put up with as teenagers in the 60s! Can't imagine anyone putting up with it these days (Gareth [Foster?], bdxucuk yg via DXLD)

Car crash radio! This might give you some amusement: Can't sleep from the pain so having a tune on MW at 0013 UT on 31/12/15: 1440, Luxembourg is currently broadcasting what sounds like the retrospective from 31/12/1991, but they should have done some research first because it features glowing tributes to and from --- Jimmy Saville, Chris Denning! & Cliff Richard! The phrase "ill-judged" doesn't begin to cover this broadcast! Oh dear Radio nonce-mbourg what have you done!

I was actually a listener prior to the 1991 shutdown - in those days it was Mike Hollis, Shawn Tilley, Robin Banks, etc., but the memory is well and truly soiled :D On the plus side I'm once again amazed by the noise rejecting ability of the Reuter RDR54D1; on the Icom 1470 is just a wall of noise but on the Reuter I can hear a Latin American Pile up ñ (Tim Bucknall, Congleton, UK, UK Director #KresySiberia, WORLD OF RADIO 1806, DX LISTENING DIGEST)

Radio Luxembourg 0000-0200 31/12/2015 --- Just started at 0000z
31/12/2015 - Mike Hollis's history of Radio Luxembourg programme. I
understand this will close with a repeat of Radio Luxembourg's 1992
closedown sequence. Anyway, it's right now on 1440 kHz MW - in English
Posted by: (Tom Read, 0004 UT Dec 31, BDXC-UK yg via DXLD)

Re: Medium wave in Europe --- Germany left MW short before midnight,
only AFN-1143 still audible. Luxembourg-1440 got replaced by Belgian
pirate Radio Paradise, and that is now playing an old R. Luxembourg-
English "208" recording. So don't get surprised. France is still on
air with all channels (Jurgen Bartels Suellwarden, N. Germany, mwdx yg
via DXLD)

** MADAGASCAR. 5011.04, 1944-1955 13/12 MDG?, R. Madagasikara
(presumed), Ambohidrano. Music, Weak modulation. Adjacent QRM de CHINA
on 5010. 14441 (Carlos GonÁalves, South coast of Portugal, JRC NRD-
545DSP & DRAKE R8-E; Advanced ReceiverResearch amp.; 20 m T2FD, 45 m
inv. V, 30 m 180f/0f mini-Bev., 80 m 300f/120f Bev., 200 m 270f/ 90f
Bev., 270 m 145f/325f Bev., 300 m 225f/45f Bev., raised, 4 loop K9AY,
playdx yg via DXLD)

5009.8, Radio Malagasy, 1750, not much more than a carrier (or het
against AIR on nominal); recently noted as high as 5011 (David Sharp,
NSW, Dec 23, Sent from David Sharp's iPhone, DX LISTENING DIGEST)

** MALAYSIA. 9835, Sarawak FM (via RTM Kajang) 1558+ 24 Dec. One quick
"Salam Christmas" & into Stevie Wonder's cover of "A Christmas Song"
just before TOH and 'Negara Ku'. Wai FM managed a cheerful "meri
Christmas" at 1552 check, as well (Dan Sheedy, Moonlight Beach, CA,
E5/6m X wire, DX LISTENING DIGEST)

** MEXICO. 590, XEPH Sabrosita 590, MÈxico, DF. 1103 December 24,
2015. The usual very non-Mexican tropical and salsa vocals format,
canned kiddie "°Sabrosita!" atop song (Terry L. Krueger, All
times/dates GMT, NRD-535, IC-R75, roof dipole, active loop u.o.s.,
Clearwater, FL u.o.s., DX LISTENING DIGEST)

** MEXICO. 610 // 650, Dec 29 at 1314, the Sinaloa twins with their
morning agriculture show, mentioning Guasave meeting: XEGS 610
Guasave, XETNT 650 Los Mochis (Glenn Hauser, OK, DX LISTENING DIGEST)

** MEXICO. 660, Dec 24 at 0519, Spanish station mentions ``Grupo
RadiofÙnico Zer``, then plug for some holiday event in Aguascalientes
on 5 de enero, and a long string of federal PSAs including C·mara de
Diputadas y Diputados (women finally get first billing in MÈxico! But
I bet they are still a minority); Secretarìa de Salud; CNDH (National
Human Rights Commission); Senado about the ``catastrophe`` of global

warming (imagine the denialist Republican-controlled U.S. Senate saying something like that!), still PSAs at 0523 as some station in English is gaining, KSKY? Anyhow, the 660 station is 50/10 kW XEEY, and indeed is affiliated with ZER per the new IRCA Mexican Log (Glenn Hauser, OK, DX LISTENING DIGEST)

I heard that Senate global warming PSA while waiting for 40 minutes to hear XEAD's top-of-hour ID last night. I was kind of stunned myself. ZER is correct as the owner of XEEY: the concession is in the name of Josefina Reyes Sahagún, who happens to be the wife of Grupo Radio Único ZER's founder and namesake, Arnolando Rodríguez Zermeño. Sahagún has a few concessions and permit stations in her name. ZER is a den of what I call "permit wolves" (noncommercial stations operated commercially), owning a bunch of them in various cities, and earlier this year received a social concession (a.k.a. permit) to expand to television in its home market of Zacatecas, under the name Valores y Tradiciones de mi Tierra, A.C. The clue that it was ZER was that the legal representative was the group's vice president and another holder of permits, Rodrigo Rodríguez Reyes (Raymie Humbert, Phúnix AZ, Dec 24, WTFDA Forum via DXLD)

** MEXICO [and non]. 660, Dec 29 at 1318, adstring by live announcer, mentioning Mazatlán and Delicias, for a farmacia i.a., from WSW, presumably XEACB in Ciudad Delicias, Chihuahua (no 660 in Sinaloa); along with another SS further counterclockwise, could be Durango or Aguascalientes. By 1330 UT, ``The Answer`` KSKY The Metroplex captures 660, exactly its official Dec & Jan sunrise time for jump from 700 to 20,000 watts (Glenn Hauser, OK, DX LISTENING DIGEST)

** MEXICO. 660, XECPR Radio Chan Santa Cruz, Felipe Carillo Puerto, Quintana Roo. 1017 December 27, 2015. Tuning up the dial, stopped on a nice signal with someone playing the LP version of a late-1970's crossover smooth jazz trumpet hit I can't recall the name of (I thought it was "Feels So Good" by Chuck Mangione, but not so when going to YouTube later to confirm; maybe something Herb Alpert or Maynard Ferguson?)

Turned out to be XECPR, apparently using this warm-up track just before formal sign-on, beginning with the Mexican choral anthem from 1020, Quintana Roo state anthem (instrumental, truly awful song) from 1022, then a high school-like band from 1024. Man at 1028, "El domingo, XECPR, Radio Chan Santa Cruz..." then female seemingly canned, "Sintonizar XECPR, Radio Chan Santa Cruz... 630 AM... la buena, la buena... XECPR... desde la capital de... 630 AM... mil watts de potencia... excelencia... Radio Chan Santa Cruz, buenos días, buenos días... Radio Chan Santa Cruz, 630 AM." Into Spanish ballads.

1020 GMT is well before Quintana Roo or even my sunrise. Suspect this

one has eluded me because they normally sign on much later (this was a Sunday). But then again, December 30: 1104 man and woman canned ID including phone number, into Mexi-tunes. Male canned "Radio Chan Santa Cruz" between songs through 1125 tune-out (Terry L. Krueger, All times/dates GMT. NRD-535, IC-R75, roof dipole, active loop, Clearwater, FL, WORLD OF RADIO 1806, DX LISTENNG DIGEST)

** MEXICO. 660, XEFZ ABC Radio, Monterrey, Nuevo Le n. 1150 December 28, 2015. Female with program promo, mentions of ABC Radio, man with news and those gobierno announcements. Someone else very weak with choral anthem from 1159. No trace of XECPR through 1209 tune-out today, assuming the anthem at the time most normally spin it wasn't them (Terry L. Krueger, All times/dates GMT. NRD-535, IC-R75, roof dipole, active loop, Clearwater, FL, DX LISTENNG DIGEST)

** MEXICO. 700, Dec 29 at 1322, rustic music by fiddle and guitar past 1330, and at 1331 full ID in Spanish for XEETCH, Etchojoa, Sonora, and then same in indigenous language, both mentioning sponsoring federal agency CNDPI - Comisi n Nacional para el Desarrollo de Pueblos Ind genas; no QRM at first, but 1334 something in English, probably WLW resurging almost at our sunrise; heard more than once, including 1335, interjexion between tunes, `` Qu  me toque un baile!`` -- play me a dance. I love listening to this native music; hard to pull away to keep bandscanning (Glenn Hauser, OK, WORLD OF RADIO 1806, DX LISTENING DIGEST)

** MEXICO. 720, Dec 27 at 0121, romantic music, break and ``continuamos con el fon grafo de 720 AM`` atop WGN most of the time. Might have been KSAH TX, but definitely Mexican at 0142, with PSAs from INE - Instituto Nacional Electoral, SCT - Secretar a de Comunicaciones y Transporte, CNDH - Comisi n Nacional de Derechos Humanos; another ``continuamos`` non-ID as above and back to music. Presumed the usual irritant {yea, nemesis} to WGN, making a slow SAH with it, XEDE, Saltillo, Coahuila (Glenn Hauser, OK, DX LISTENING DIGEST)

** MEXICO. 760, Dec 25 at 0207 UT, on Nissan caradio, Spanish station is dominant with several social media contacts mentioning Universo, and then ABC, so it's 70/10 kW XEABC in Los Reyes de la Paz, EdoMex, i.e. effectively the DF while it still exist. I couldn't hear WJR now if I wanted to (Glenn Hauser, OK, DX LISTENING DIGEST)

** MEXICO. 870, Dec 29 at 1328, YL Spanish talk about fiestas, then she switches to Tarahumara, as it's obviously XETAR, Guachochi, Chihuahua (Glenn Hauser, OK, DX LISTENING DIGEST)

** MEXICO. Who's this? Was listening to a crappy and fluttery AM band when I hear m sica tropical on 930. I heard the announcer go into the

ID and a fade at the most inappropriate time but when the fade came back up she said m'sica tropical. I will have to listen some more if it ever comes back but am curious who this might be (Kevin Crump, TN, Dec 25, ABDX via DXLD)

Kevin: likely XEU 930 in Boca del Rio, VERACRUZ, Mexico. La "U" de Veracruz. sometimes has a "musica tropical" program in the evenings (Steven Wiseblood/AB5GP, Harlingen TEXAS, ibid.)

I wondered about that. They were rumored to have moved to FM a while back, as was XEJ-970, but when I recently discovered that XEJ did not vacate the AM dial after all (they merely added an FM and cut the power on AM 970 to 1kW)?, I wondered if XEU's reported "move" to FM would also prove to be false. (still trying to find the right angle to pick up NE Mexico and the southern tip of TX from the Border Inn site) 73 (Tim Hall, Sent from my BlackBerry 10 smartphone, ibid.)

<http://tunein.com/radio/XEU-930-s87588/>
here XEU is are ONLINE, they have added 98.1 FM Veracruz
(Steven Wiseblood, Harlingen TEXAS, ibid.)

Thanks Steven! I think I had some bits of tropical music on 930 on the SE wire. I've just now finished reviewing all the recordings from the September Border Inn DXpedition. As soon as I type up all the tips (better late than never!) I'll be eager to go back and re-check the recordings to see what I missed the first time around. 73 (Tim, Sent from my BlackBerry 10 smartphone, ibid.)

I just received a QSL letter within the last week or so from XEU-AM 930, for an old reception report. In the verification, the station Engineer states that XEU no longer transmits on AM - now only FM and Internet. 73 - (J. . Stephens, Hampton Cove, AL, Dec 27, ibid.)

Don't forget WKY 930 OKC, La Indomable, mostly music format. Not sure if some of it would be considered Tropical, but surely a bearing would have ruled that in or out vs Veracruz (Glenn Hauser, OK, DX LISTENING DIGEST)

** MEXICO. 950, XEMEX La Mexicana, Ciudad Guzmán, Jalisco. 1201 December 28, 2015. Kiddie version of anthem in progress (always used here) followed by those rapid and haunting flute notes theme, an easy way to confirm it's this one when no ID is pulled (Terry L. Krueger, All times/dates GMT. NRD-535, IC-R75, roof dipole, active loop, Clearwater, FL, DX LISTENING DIGEST)

** MEXICO. 970, Dec 29 at 1339, ballads in Spanish pulled past local 960 KGWA, 1342 DJ maybe mentions Jota, 1347 fades for next announcement including phone numbers. Probably XEJ in Ciudad Juárez,

Chihuahua, now known as Pancho as listed in 2015 IRCA Log, while WRTH 2016 still has it as La J Mexicana (Glenn Hauser, OK, DX LISTENING DIGEST)

I recently discovered that XEJ did not vacate the AM dial after all (they merely added an FM and cut the power on AM 970 to 1 kW (Tim Hall, CA, ABDX via DXLD)

** MEXICO. 1030, Dec 28 at 0635 and at many other times, dominant signal is Spanish talk, which no doubt is XEYC, R. Fórmula, in Juárez, Chihuahua, 1/1 kW, rather than 50/5 kW XEQR, R. Centro in the DF, almost twice the distance whence signals are remarkably rare.

1030, Dec 29 at 1346, R. Fórmula, Grupo Fórmula ID in news/talk, so XEYC, Ciudad Juárez, mostly on network feed out of XERFR DF 970 but occupied here and there by XEJ, q.v. (Glenn Hauser, OK, DX LISTENING DIGEST)

** MEXICO. 1060+, Dec 26 at 0604, choral NA ending, as usual making LAH on the hi side of 1060.0 stations, full ID for XERDO, ``La Raza`` also mentioning 93.7 FM, i.e. Reynosa. This is a new station first appearing in the WRTH 2016 edition (Glenn Hauser, OK, DX LISTENING DIGEST)

** MEXICO. Circa 2030 UT Dec 25, 6m maps show sporadic E openings up to 97 MHz over eastern USA, but seeing nothing on TV and hearing nothing on FM, I move on to other tasks, such as gathering pecans before another winter storm hits us. I don't turn on TV again until 2249 when I find Es now on TV from analog Mexico, all times UT:

2249 on 2, weak video but Spanish music audio; video has CCI beat bars of about 5 kHz, perhaps from local device/cable radiation, and doesn't go away. Now the maps show some contacts across Texas but not Mexico on 6m.

2255 on 2, same fades in again

2304 on 2, stronger fade-in with VW ad, Banco Azteca, Crest; 2306 glimpse of trece

2315 on 2, Azteca trece, full screen animation, corte informativo, no audio

2322 on 2, continuamos, now small trece bug in UR during film drama

2331 on 4, MUF now up to here with some video, soon CCI among 2 or 3 stations, including 20 kHz apart plus/minus offset small beat bars

2347 on 3, now some video and audio CCI here; as often happens, we get signs of DX on 4 before 3, presumably due to geographical factors

2350 on 4, novela, Televisa 2 star bug in lower right

2351 on 5, now some lite video CCI is showing up here

2353 on 5, novela, Televisa 2 star bug LR

2355 on 2, animation with dancing elves, Azteca 7 bug in UR

Will all these signals be blacked out forever in one week with the apagûn analûgico? It seems that a few minor stations are getting exceptions. Unlike in the US and Canada, where there remain *some* lowband TV stations now in DTV, Mexico is abandoning VHF for UHF only, effectively putting an end to DX abroad. For now, to be continued.

A bit more from the sporadic E opening in last report, crossing into next UT day, Dec 26:

0001 on 2, dubbed animated movie, dog looks like ``Lady & the Tramp``; believe there's an Azteca 7 bug in UR

0025 on 4, novela, Televisa 2 star bug in LR, definitely at 0031

0045 just about all gone, conveniently for me to switch to Friday evening SW monitoring session (Glenn Hauser, OK, WORLD OF RADIO 1806, DX LISTENING DIGEST)

6m Es maps showing activity all day Dec 29, just out of reach, over eastern USA, northern, northwestern, so I never see anything on channel 2, or hearing anything on 88.1 --- until almost midnight local, UT Dec 30:

0536 on 2, fade-in weak video and audio with music

0542 on 2, Spanish ad, promo a program at 6 de la tarde, but can't catch a network

0543, ``SIPSE``, mentioned as one word, so that points right to one of my regulars, XHY-TV in Mérida, Yucatán. (And my antenna is also pointed that way.); no more seen after 0546. Then I check the 6m map and see one ham contact line across Texas to correlate with DX from this direxion.

Probably the last time I will ever see it with the apagûn analûgico looming, but will no longer be an obstacle to further Latin American TVDX from the same bearing across Central and South America, I hope

(Glenn Hauser, OK, DX LISTENING DIGEST)

** MEXICO [and non]. Mexico TV in 251-323 MHz band!

I just found out about this while looking at the Mexican bandplan (note MEX69). There are apparently 12 TV channels in the 251-323 MHz band! These channels are used as STLs (studio-transmitter links). The few listed here are in the ITU database - there are probably lots more. Regular NTSC mode. There are also tons of radio STLs in the same range. Any DXers up for a challenge? Known list follows:

251-257 MHz

Tijuana, BC 100 watts

257-263 MHz

Colima (Volc·n de Colima), COL 158 watts

Nevado de Colima, JAL 200 watts

Monterrey (Papagayos), NL 10 watts

Canc·n, QR 10 watts

Mazatl·n (El Vigia), VER 1.26 kW

263-269 MHz

Tecate, BC 10 watts

Monterrey, NL 10 watts

Santa Catarina, NL 10 watts

269-275 MHz

Colima (Volc·n de Colima), COL 158 watts

Tamazula, JAL 200 watts

Monterrey (Papagayos), NL 10 watts

Canc·n, QR 10 watts

Mazatl·n (El Vigia), VER 1.26 kW

275-281 MHz

La Rumorosa, BC 10 watts

Ciudad Tiutzen, SLP 10 watts

Ciudad Valles (Cuitzillo), SLP 200 watts

281-287 MHz

Colima (Volc·n de Colima), COL 158 watts

Nevado de Colima, JAL 200 watts

San Juan (San Diego), JAL 200 watts

Monterrey (Papagayos), NL 40 watts

Canc·n, QR 10 watts

Mazatl·n (El Vigia), VER 1.26 kW

287-293 MHz

Ensenada, BC 10 watts

293-299 MHz

Acapulco (Agua Fria), GRO 10 watts

Tamazula, JAL 200 watts

Teocaltiche, JAL 158 watts

299-305 MHz

305-311 MHz

Acapulco (Agua Fria), GRO 10 watts

311-317 MHz

317-323 MHz

(William Hepburn, WTFDA gg via DXLD)

While working on the "shadow" stations in the regular band I ran into a number of radio STLs just outside of the 222 MHz ham band. There were dozens of them listed in a single document and I expect there are more beyond what I saw. I forget whether they were on the 221 MHz side or the 225 MHz side. This spectrum belongs to the military in the U.S. (Doug Smith W9WI, Pleasant View, TN EM66, Dec 16, *ibid.*)

It seems that most of Latin America has radio STL's somewhere in this range (example: Colombia 300.1-328.5 MHz) - so many targets for unintended military-satellite relaying. Yesterday's 296.65 Sogamoso, Colombia is gone today. Maybe the satellite wobbles? wrh (Bill Hepburn, *ibid.*)

** MEXICO. RAYMIE'S MEXICO BEAT this week ---

Merry Christmas! Since there's not much going on right now, I figure it's a good time for a transmitter site:

<https://www.google.com/maps/@31.8727409,-116.6313301,3a,75y,305.99h,91.54t/data=!3m6!1e1!3m4!1sg-2mqapRzDUgBFmiVmpfXA!2e0!7i13312!8i6656>

That is Ensenada. And the television duopoly in Mexico is rarely rubbing elbows, uh, this closely. As in, the transmitter facilities are next to each other.

The only station not in this picture is the local station XHENB-29. It's at another site with some other sticks a mile away on another high point. And I have no idea about it being in digital, so...

Este programa es p'blico, ajeno a cualquier partido poltico. Queda prohibido el uso para fines distintos a los establecidos en el programa (Raymie Humbert, Phúnix AZ, Dec 25, WTFDA Forum via DXLD)

A not-so-merry Christmas from XEPET in Peto, Yucatán, where the CDI

indigenous station has axed half its staff!

http://www.desdeelbalcon.com/despodos-en-la-cdi-golpe-devastador-para-radio-xepet-aseguran/#.Vn1j9h3Yy1_.twitter

The remaining workers called it a "devastating blow" to the station to lose five of their ten staff. They also said that advising and technical services to the school stations operating in localities like Chemax and Yaxcopoil would be cut (Raymie, Dec 25, *ibid.*)

Some more information on the Big Radio Station Bid of 2016 (or, as I will call it, Subasta '16):

http://www.milenio.com/firmas/fernando_mejia_barquera/Radio-frecuencias-licitacion_18_652314787.html

#1. Pricey and cheap. The most expensive stations in the auction are 91.3 and 92.9 FM Acapulco, with a starting bid of 1.75 million pesos; the cheapest FMs will set you back at least 2,500 pesos and are in Mahahual, Q. Roo, 41 miles from Chetumal. On AM, you'll pay 1.53 million pesos for the privilege of operating 1030 AM in Lagos de Moreno, Jalisco, but 614.1 pesos (\$35.60) for 730 AM at Concepción del Oro, Zacatecas. What a steal!

#2. Economic offers weighted heavily. 80 to 86% of the valuation of each bid depends on how much they offer, not on how long it'd take them to get on air (or for FM, HD Radio).

#3. Timeline. Participants will register in March, with the auction occurring in May. This is a simultaneous ascending auction.

Mejía Barquera also apologized for his horrendous column last week, which was very poorly researched. The linchpin of the whole article, which discussed Radio Fórmula airing its newscasts on Jalisco state FMs, was the fact that he mistook XHPVA 91.9 for 91.1, a frequency in Subasta '16.

óóó

Surprise! Another digital television station snuck up on us! It's XHCRP-TDT 22, broadcasting from Cerro Corral de Piedra as part of the CORTV state network (Oaxaca). No authorization, but this article confirms that CORTV is on air from Corral de Piedra.

<http://www.oaxaca.gob.mx/nunca-mas-una-televisora-al-servicio-de-un-gobierno-gabino-cue/>

22 is reported as the RF by a local viewer and matches the expected channel assignment (Raymie, Dec 26, *ibid.*)

TELEVISION IN CHIHUAHUA CAPITAL

based on research by Eduardo Burciaga, translated by me, with some of my own stuff in there too

Chihuahua, Chih. jumped on the television train early by Mexican standards, when XERA-TV signed on channel 11 in 1956. Built by Ramiro Gerardo Uranga Fern ndez, who already owned radio stations including XEFI, XEFO, XEFA and XEBW. Located on Avenida Zarco number 3604, XERA would morph into a more recognizable form in the 1960s. In 1964, it moved to channel 5, and in 1969, the station was rechristened XHFI-TV. Telesistema Mexicano bought XHFI in 1971.

By that time, competition had appeared. Tele-Cadena Mexicana built XHCH-TV, which signed on March 16, 1968 after eight years of waiting for a concession and four more years as an unbuilt station. XHCH broadcast from Cerro Santa Rosa and was known as "el canal del perrito chihuahu  o". It was the first station with significant major programming. In 1969, it would pick up an affiliation with Televisi  n Independiente de M  xico. By the 1970s it would become the market leader, with popular programming including its flagship children's show, Estrellitas del Dos.

The next year, XHIT-TV channel 4 would come to air. It was owned by Impulsora de Televisi  n, S.A. (Burciaga says XHIT was owned by Uranga and connected to Telesistema Mexicano; Mej  a Prieto 1972 lists it as part of Tele-Cadena Mexicana, which I believe to be correct.) XHIT would cease broadcasting in December 1972. On August 8, 1973, the Diario Oficial de la Federaci  n ran a declaration of expropriation of XHIT's concession, stating that in going dark, XHIT had damaged the public interest. The station came under operation by the SCT, and upon being bid out again later in the decade, the concession was predictably won by Corporaci  n Mexicana de Radio y Televisi  n    the state-owned Canal 13. XHFI began to carry XEW programming in the afternoon hours.

In November 1975, the rest of Tele-Cadena Mexicana, including XHCH which now was primarily running XHGC programs in the afternoons, was expropriated. It linked up not only to XHGC but also to Televisi  n Cultural de M  xico. XHCH took a leap forward in 1980 when it built and signed on a satellite in Ciudad Ju  rez, XHCJE-TV channel 11. In 1983, XHCH-XHCJE and XHIT were folded into the newly created Imevisi  n, and XHCH became one of just three local stations in the entire Imevisi  n system (8 Monterrey, 22 Mexico City). It carried local programming and news, but not without political interference. Some commented that the change of XHCH from Canal 5 was part of a "punishment" for the PAN winning the mayorships of both Chihuahua and Ju  rez that year (something that just didn't happen in the "perfect dictatorship"). In 1986, 15 days before the gubernatorial elections that were said to be marred by irregularities (and which the PRI candidate won), XHCJE was taken off air.

In the late 1980s, XHECH channel 11 was created, run by Impulsora de Televisi n del Norte. It carried the Imevisi n Red Nacional 7 and was part of a regional block of stations. In the original privatization bid for XHECH and its sister stations in the group, run in 1991, there was high interest by other concessionaires, notably Sergio David Valles R os and Olga Leticia Moreno Fern ndez, who were ruled out for not requesting all of the stations but rather the four in the state of Chihuahua. (They were required to take on the whole group, including stations in Coahuila, San Luis Potos  and Zacatecas.) Ultimately, XHCH, XHIT and XHECH would go to Televisi n Azteca in 1993; XHCH and XHIT became Azteca Trece outlets (with XHIT on a one-hour delay), and the stations moved to new facilities at Blvd. Ortiz Mena number 341.

Televisa expanded in the 1990s with two new concessions. In the Great Concession of 1994, awarded to Radiotelevisora de M xico Norte, XHCHZ-13 signed on, with XEW; two years later, Telemisi n, S.A. de C.V., owned by silent partner Jos  de Jes s Partida Villanueva, obtained XHAUC-9 which absorbed all of Televisa Chihuahua's local programming. XHAUC built on Cerro Santa Rosa, where XHCH's original tower had been.

In 1997, high winds knocked Televisa's stations in Chihuahua off the air by destroying the transmitter tower. The municipality then awarded Televisa and Azteca rights to land on Cerro El Coronel, where they would build new facilities (as well as a scenic overlook, which is rather common on major Mexican mountains within cities such as those used for TV towers).

The 2000s would see the arrival of real noncommercial television to the capital city. In 2003, XHABC-28 came to air for the first time, operated by Sergio Valles and his Sistema Regional de Televisi n, A.C. In April 2006, the permit would be issued for XHCHI-20, part of a trio of new Canal Once transmitters built in Chihuahua on channel 20; transmissions began on January 12, 2007 (Raymie Humbert, *ibid.*)

It's Mexican April Fool's Day! Wait, what? Today is December 28, D a de los Inocentes. It's pretty much April Fool's for Latin America. I'm writing this primarily as a reminder to myself (Raymie, *ibid.*)

The Apag n Wave of December 31

The books will close on another 240 analog television stations on December 31, by which time 92% of the country will be all-digital.

But there have been some major omissions in apag n material of late, and for me a question:

#1. The entire state of Chiapas. This is the last state without any analog declarations that apply to it. Given what we know about Chiapas ñ it is Mexico's poorest state and has difficult terrain ñ this may be a TV distribution issue or a signal coverage issue. (I dug up a Milenio article from last month where the governor admitted that they were way behind!)

http://www.milenio.com/politica/apagon_analogico-retraso_apagon_analogico-pantallas_chiapas_0_626937618.html

The other 31 federal entities have all been included in one of the 10 waves.

#2. Some major southern Mexican cities, like Oaxaca and Villahermosa, failed to appear in either of the 12/31 waves.

#3. One station that otherwise should be allowed to continue in analog might not be able to. It's XHNAN-55 Ciudad Anahuac, NL, which I believe would be one of if not the last station in North America in the 700 MHz band were it to continue broadcasting past December 31. (XHEBC-57 Ensenada will go on 12/31.) The station is otherwise permissible under the extension conditions, though I wonder if they might not want to have it operate on another channel (like 49). (Raymie, Dec 28, *ibid.*)

IFT Commissioner Fernando Borja says that 95% of rural areas get TDT service.

<http://www.radioformula.com.mx/notas.asp?Idn=558386&idFC=2015>

Apparently, as I've been expecting, they are awaiting some further SCT notifications to shut off remaining areas of the country. I'm checking the IFT page really regularly and think later today that I should have more news of station shutdowns (Raymie, Dec 29, *ibid.*)

30 minutes ago, IFT said another wave of stations to shutdown this December 31st (finally Oaxaca and Villahermosa):

<http://www.ift.org.mx/comunicacion-y-medios/comunicados-ift/es/conforme-al-mandato-constitucional-el-ift-continua-sumando-apagones-analogicos-comunicado-1242015>

Even there is a list of stations that will continue broadcasting in analog format. All of those are low-power stations and "equipos complementarios de sombra", mostly Televisa (Gargadon, Campeche, Dec 29, *ibid.*)

Finally. Some more notes:

State networks: XHAMO and XHCOJ are in this third batch. Stations just came to air. XHCOJ lacks an RPC authorization but has to be on air.

The list of stragglers in 2016: Yes, there is a full list.
[http://www.ift.org.mx/sites/default/files/contenidogeneral/comunicacion-y-medios/
tabla2final.pdf](http://www.ift.org.mx/sites/default/files/contenidogeneral/comunicacion-y-medios/tabla2final.pdf)

Televisa is responsible for most of the commercial stations not transitioning, which are in the first part of the table; Azteca accounts for just 5 remaining analog transmitters. The second part includes noncommercial stragglers.

20 noncommercial stations owned by 10 permitholders are cutting power.
[http://www.ift.org.mx/sites/default/files/contenidogeneral/comunicacion-y-medios/
tabla1permisosfinal.pdf](http://www.ift.org.mx/sites/default/files/contenidogeneral/comunicacion-y-medios/tabla1permisosfinal.pdf)

I am surprised that the Oaxaca state network is including XHCRP and XHAOX when they are already in digital. These two lists go together to form a complete picture.

One notable missing straggler, the only such in the NL state network, is XHNAN, which will go off air because it is on channel 55.

There will be 497 analog transmitters in operation in Mexico in 2016. All VHF's will be 1 kW or less, and all UHF's will be 10 kW or less (Raymie, *ibid.*)

I'm gonna [be] recording the apagûn analûgico in my town. And I'm gonna tell you some information very singular. Since last month, XHCCT-3 audio sounds with a lot of noise. I didn't know why until now. It seems the audio carrier is drifted 400 kHz upper, located not in 65.75 MHz, but in 66.15 MHz instead (Gargadon, Ciudad del Carmen, Dec 30, *ibid.*)

Yeah, that is strange, but it won't matter after today.

One thing that's strange is that a couple of stations are missing from the authorization where they would make sense, especially Puerto Escondido: XHPET, XHPCE (XHJP is included)

The only explanation I have is that XHPCE is a much higher power station than XHJP, both in analog and digital, but XHPET isn't terribly powerful.

There are also some stations that have not appeared in any apagûn authorization, particularly in the Istmo region of Oaxaca (Palma Sola/Matías Romero) and Chiapas (San Cristûbal, Tuxtla, Motozintla, Comitûn, and for whatever reason all but one of the Tapachula stations). I have no idea what is up with them.

Azteca also waited until today to make a few adjustments to match

soon-to-be-former analog service. The Monterrey opt-outs are now available in digital in Tampico, and XHIT is on an hour delay like in analog. Last edited by Raymie; 12-30-2015 at 03:11 PM (Raymie, Dec 30, ibid.)

One long-time tropo target is already gone. XHFW-9 Tampico turned off its transmitter this afternoon and is now branding as channel 26:
<https://twitter.com/TampicososTV/status/682245304830144512>

The account has some other tweets ó apparently Televisa del Golfo and XHFW did quite a bit of stuff (Raymie, Dec 30, ibid.)

I am also on a free-to-air (FTA) satellite TV forum and one of the members there posted they are in Baja California and ALL of the OTA stations have gone digital. They live in a retirement destination community and several of the seniors there have large screen analogs. He would like to know if the Mexican digitals will decode on the US converter boxes. I think they will but thought I should ask here first. Seems everyone on that forum is clueless about the Mexican DTV transition. He commented it would be such a waste if all of them had to be thrown away because a converter box won't work with them (Jim Thomas, Springfield, MO, Dec 30, ibid.)

Yes, they'll work (same standard)! Do you mind linking me to the thread? (Raymie, ibid.)

Thank you Raymie.

<https://rickcaylor.websitetoolbox.com/post/questions-about-digital-tv-atasc-7837583?pid=1290155811>
(Jim Thomas, Springfield, MO, ibid.)

I'm not sure in re: the satellite hardware, unfortunately, but buying a converter at any electronics store (Elektra, Soriana, etc.) should do the trick. Elektra sells the HiTV boxes which are good in the rare case they wind up with an MPEG-4 dilemma in their area (they were designed for an Azteca-run service not unlike Airbox). Of course, a UHF antenna is a must ó if they are in BCS somewhere this might not be something they have in spades. The only thing is that they might want to find the language settings to change to English.

The IFT also managed to sneak in the final 34 authorizations, for stations in Oaxaca and Chiapas, today.
<http://www.ift.org.mx/sites/default/files/contenidogeneral/comunicacion-y-medios/senalesapagon31dediciembre-acuerdo30dic.pdf>

óóó

Some final statistics...

The IFT regaled us with this beautiful infographic,
<http://www.ift.org.mx/sites/default/files/contenidogeneral/comunicacion-y-medios/infografiaapagonanalogicomexico2015.pdf>
which also mentions that XHNAN was vandalized, isn't on the air and is expected to return in digital. It also tells us that the apag n tonight affects 40 million people.

The actual press release mentions the following:
<http://www.ift.org.mx/comunicacion-y-medios/comunicados-ift/es/culmina-la-transicion-la-television-digital-terrestre-conforme-al-mandato-constitucional-y-queda>

* In September 2013, 330 stations were authorized and 146 in operation. Today, all stations are authorized and 537 main stations and 236 (the document says 536 but also says 773 in total) shadows are operating.

With regard to yesterday's analog list:

* There are 319 commercial shadows remaining. All but 5 are from Televisa stations.

* 129 main permit stations will remain in analog at existing low powers, plus 20 more that cut their ERPs.

* 29 shadows of noncommercial stations also remain: 25 in Chiapas, 2 in Nayarit and 2 in Veracruz.

Last edited by Raymie; 12-30-2015 at 11:58 PM (Raymie, *ibid.*)

Hi. As a Dish Mexico subscriber, I can tell you that the Dish boxes with ATSC tuner built-in can't work without its subscriber card, and that includes the ATSC tuner part. The safest method is getting a new converter box (cheapest since \$28.50 USD), or as Raymie said, HiTV from Elektra boxes. If he can get cheaper converter boxes in USA, it would be better (Gargadon, Campeche, *ibid.*)

And so it is done. The digital transition in Mexico, which began more than 11 years ago, has finally come to its logical end   at least for main stations.

It is midnight in Aguascalientes, and across most of the Mexican Republic. The stations of Quintana Roo bid their farewells an hour ago. In an hour, it is farewell for Sonora, Chihuahua, Sinaloa, Nayarit and Baja California Sur. And one hour later, Baja California will conclude the parade with stations in Ensenada.

It has been an exciting 19 months since I joined this forum. I have learned more than I ever thought I would about radio and television in Mexico. I have solved riddles that were never solved in their time, including when they ran in VUDs more than 30 years ago.

With this farewell, Mexican television will matter a lot less to the average TV DXer. Aside from the 497 remaining low-power transmitters, which promise a real challenge, only those in tropo range of the Gulf of Mexico will still see iXEís and iXHís come in from time to time. However, the digital television transition is the start of an exciting new era in Mexican television. In the 1960s, the Secretary of Communications and Transport, Walter Cross Buchanan, declared that a goal of the expansion of Mexican television was to bring the signal ifrom coast to coast and from border to borderí. Within the next few months, Cadena Tres will launch as the first network in decades to aim at that goal and build all its transmitters from the ground up. A bidding process is underway that may do wonders for the development of regional and local services in a historically centralized landscape.

At the same time, some 60 years of e-skip and (later) tropo reception of Mexican television stations has for the most part come to an end. Imagine the first DXer to receive Mexico, back in the heady days. The first time Cerro del Zamorano put a signal into the United States, caught on a DXerís antenna in Arizona in the summer of 57. The first reception of Mexico via tropo, the first appearance of TIM, the ImevisiÚn logo and later the Azteca headdress. The black box IDs, succeeded by the 16x4s.

En otro aspecto de este asunto, en los últimos 19 meses me he quedado inmerso en México. He aprendido mucho sobre la historia, la cultura, la complejidad del país. Para un estudiante de un idioma, no hay mejor oportunidad de bañarse en un idioma que hacerlo en combinaciÚn con un interés profundo, una especialidad. Los medios, y sobre todo la televisiÚn, me han fascinado desde mi niñez. Entre mis recuerdos son leer sobre el diexismo, sobre la televisiÚn en Estados Unidos. Hace m>s de ocho años yo di mi primer paso en aprender el espaol, y en mi opiniÚn mejorÚ mucho mi espaol a causa de estos estudios y proyectos, todos los documentos federales que he leído, los foros en los cuales he comunicado con usuarios mexicanos cuyos reportes fueron claves en la compilaciÚn de las noticias que aparecieron en este hilo.

I will not be gone entirely, of course. I'll still be around to post the odd piece of Mexican radio news, to assist in identifying SS stations during skip season, and so on, as well as to keep you updated on the nearly 500 stragglers. But in a way, this is the end of a phase for me, not least for Mexico, which for the most part concludes 65 years and 4 months of analog television service today, and not least for DXing.

I can only end this era one way, now, can I?

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZvEqYbHr4wU>
...Y retiemble en sus centros la tierra
Al sonoro rugir del cañón. [Mexican National Anthem]
(Raymie, Dec 31, ibid.)

VIDEOS:

Tabasco: <https://twitter.com/saenzei/status/682452936681734144>
Chiapas: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YV6KwI_q3zM
Tampico XHTPZ: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6pZCB1AZLlU>
(Raymie, ibid.)

And mine one: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iescMUyeUyQ>
(Gargadon, ibid.) Viz., captioned:

Apagón Analógico Ciudad del Carmen, Mexico
David Emmanuel Kant'n Marín
204 60 views Published on Dec 30, 2015

The radio is tuned at 67.75 MHz, an XHCDC-11 audio carrier harmonic [sic]. And it was the last station to shut down, just for 5 seconds after TV Azteca ones (via DXLD)

Well, there is FM

Seriously, your work has been GREATLY appreciated. Your study of the language -- and of the mundane details of how the Mexican government releases information - have left us far more familiar with what's going on south of the Rio Bravo. (members should not discount the importance of that second half of the equation. Even with regard to English-speaking countries such as the Bahamas, we've been lacking in understanding of official information. It is one thing to be able to translate information into English and something entirely different to really understand what it means.)

Este himno dura más que la televisión analógica!
(Doug Smith W9WI, Pleasant View, TN EM66, <http://www.w9wi.com> ibid.)

I don't think I've seen anything better than the RPC in my 19 months on here. When I saw for the first time an authorization labeled "EQ_COMPLEMENTARIO" in there, I couldn't believe my eyes. (I think it was XEZ or XHZ where I saw it first.)

Some more videos:
Canc'n: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UAJP_ublye8
Colima: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1Rh_stC54qQ
Culiacán: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ysUdBAopy0c>
Guerrero (report from Gala TV Acapulco):
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2h8qff3ctxs>

Los Mochis: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kA7TLXauWPw>
Manzanillo: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=w6CTC3lB6BM>
Mazatlán: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LFdgdXQej90I>
Mérida: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zQe6grmlki0>
Sahuayo Mich. (XHSAM): <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DYBAaGk2TEk>
ó This station was not shut off on 12/16 because the town was tied up
in a special election. Note the odd ID style.
Oaxaca: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tGR00jY5rgE> ó Take a good
long look at the CORTV color bars. You're going to need to get used to
them. CORTV has many analog stragglers.
Another Tampico. Also shows XHTPZ's station ID with HUGE calls:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=n9AIxiqmz0I>
Tepic: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HZ5jAQFp0xQ>
Veracruz: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Vm-v_walggk
Also, an item on XHSBB and XHTTG moving to digital:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dGltaadvBKU>
Last edited by Raymie; 12-31-2015 at 04:30 PM (Raymie, *ibid.*)

Raymie, thanks a lot for keeping us updated on Mexico's transition. To
date I've never seen Mexico by tropo, but I expect to someday. Can't
wait to see XH- calls pop up on the PSIP!

(:: Ryan Grabow, Fort Myers FL, :: <http://egrabow.com/dx>
:: facebook.com/egrabow440 :: youtube.com/user/egrabow440 *ibid.*)

There is no reason to leave here now, is there, Raymie? cd (Chris
Dunne, FL, *ibid.*)

Nahhh...I'm staying, of course! I can't imagine not doing this,
honestly. It's just that there's a lot less TV news that matters to
most DXers (Raymie, *ibid.*)

I remember when you first started posting here Raymie, I was glad you
showed up. As I said then; my only regret was that you weren't around
sooner. Saying you've done a remarkable job is an understatement.
Especially considering you're not a DXer! It's different now. Hard to
explain --- there was just something about analog Mexico (mike, South
Louisiana, TVDXing since 7/27/09, *ibid.*)

The backbones of my research didn't exist until a few months before I
joined. When the RPC launched in March 2014 it didn't have any
permits, only concessions. Now I can't imagine life without it. We've
extracted a lot of data from the authorizations it has, too (Raymie,
ibid.)

Raymie, Great work! Much appreciated. And please keep it up with
radio. I think you have already written a PhD dissertation should you
need one in a few years (Glenn Hauser, *ibid.*)

** MYANMAR/BURMA. 5985.0, Myanmar Radio, 1530, Dec 25 with fair reception (very readable) in English; ID, news and weather; 1537 NHK's "Friends Around the World," a Thursday & Friday show; interesting program about haiko short poems, with 3 lines of 5 syllables, 7 syllables and 5 syllables. Clear audio at <https://app.box.com/s/lgi98a89f41b0zq3nixafut8sah4ud8u> (Ron Howard, Asilomar State Beach, CA, EtÛn E1, antenna: 100' long wire, dxldyg via WORLD OF RADIO 1806, DX LISTENING DIGEST) See LANGUAGE LESSONS

** MYANMAR. 7200.09, Myanmar Radio, 1300-1312*, Dec 28. In vernacular; pop songs; slowly improving till suddenly off. Reception contingent upon both RTI and CNR1 (jamming) going off together at 1300, but recently one or the other has often run late (Ron Howard, Asilomar State Beach, CA, EtÛn E1, antenna: 100' long wire, dxldyg via DX LISTENING DIGEST)

Dec 30 at 1356 found CNR1 (jamming) still on 7200; running well past the normal 1300*; strong signal and // 6125 (Ron Howard, ibid.)

re MYANMAR. 7200.09, Myanmar Radio --- MYANMAR Only two strings visible on 9590 and 9730 kHz at 0430 UT Dec 30:

Nothing heard in Japan remote units at this hour. Accurate 9589.991 kHz and on 9730 kHz strings visible, but latter disturbed by powerhouse V of Korea in English at 0430-0527 UT at S=9+15dB strength level.

Latter carried soldiers chorus till 0438 UT, followed by news in English at 0439 UT, about North Korean fishery fleet workers. Improving of peoples living conditions, leader Kim Jong-Un told the people about the 'fishery front' to reach the successful 7th congress next year. wb (Wolfgang B,schel, ibid.)

Tentatively - I see an odd frequency peak around 0100-0200 UT on Dec 31 on v7200 kHz: 7200 kHz stronger signal peak on accurate 7200.118 kHz at 0115 UT, but wandered downwards to x.105 kHz/Hz; and now at 0157 UT on x.101 kHz.

S=9+5dB level in Russia, but local noise in Moscow is tremendously at -66dBm level, - terrible suburb receiver noise level during festivity season lights everywhere.

I guess 7200v frequency in Myanmar/Burma would come rather from older UK Empire era broadcast center in former capital at Rangoon Yegu site, than from newer northern site of Pyin Oo Lwin / Pyin U Lwin, at 22 01'03.78"N 96 33'00.76"E some 208 kilometers northerly distance from capital single TX site

5915kHz 100kW Nay Pyi Taw outlet.

Latter rather 5914.993 kHz precisely measured freq at 0130 UT on Dec 31, two masts at 20 10'51.01"N 96 08'41.04"E G.C. location.

Tiny signals here all over Europe on this 7200 threshold level, no chance to get any audio into Europe, at least with the SF figures prediction this UT early morning. This log of Moscow, Sweden, Austria and Italy remote units; unfortunately Uwe's remote post unit in Thailand is OFF - not on server net now (Wolfgang B, schel, Dec 31, DX LISTENING DIGEST)

** NETHERLANDS [non]. 7395, Dec 27 at 0147, The Mighty KBC has Uncle Eric introducing Wolfman Jack, with an Xmas medley, interviewing a member of the Elf Liberation Front; S7 via Nauen, GERMANY (Glenn Hauser, OK, DX LISTENING DIGEST)

Mighty KBC Frequency Change --- As of Sunday, January 10, 2016 the Mighty KBC moves to 6040 kHz and the new time is 0000 to 0300 UT to North America. Spread the word! 73, (Kraig, KG4LAC, Krist, Dec 29, dxldyg via WORLD OF RADIO 1806, DX LISTENING DIGEST)

Officially in HFCC that looks good, nothing already on 6035, 6040, 6045 during those hours. But there's the off-frequency Brazilian RB2 on 6040+ which will be causing at least an annoying het. Did they not know about it? Of course there is Bhutan on 6035 which may be a little harder to hear one day a week. Aoki also has Chinese stations on 6040. 73, (Glenn Hauser, ibid.)

GERMANY, Frequency change of Mighty KBC Radio effective Jan. 9, 2016: 2300-2400 NF 6040 NAU 125 kW / 300 deg to NoAm English Sat, ex 7395 0000-0200 NF 6040 NAU 125 kW / 300 deg to NoAm English Sat, ex 7395 <http://swldxbulgaria.blogspot.bg/2015/12/frequency-change-of-mighty-kbc-radio.html> -- 73! (Ivo Ivanov, QTH: Sofia, Bulgaria, Equipment: Sony ICF-2001D 30 m. long wire, dxldyg via DX LISTENING DIGEST) You mean 00-02 SUNDAY

** NEW ZEALAND. 11724.98 approx., Dec 24 at 0536 RNZI in a song; I have long noticed it's slightly off-frequency, so attempt to measure it on the NRD-545, where I get 11724.975; having switched to the R-75 at 0706, now I get 11724.985, so split the difference.

11724.99, UT Wed Dec 30 at 0650, RNZI good with discussion of virtual reality, which turns out to be part 1 of the 'TED Radio Hour', as outtroed at 0657 --- No US SW station dares to serve as a true public radio outlet, so TG for NZ! DRM is also grinding away circa 11690 (Glenn Hauser, OK, DX LISTENING DIGEST)

** NIGERIA. 6090, FRCN Kaduna, 1830, presume the one with hilife,

dominating freq with someone else under this (David Sharp, NSW, Dec 23, Sent from David Sharp's iPhone, DX LISTENING DIGEST)

AFRICA/UNIDENTIFIED. 6090 on Dec 24, while checking on Anguilla (Caribbean Beacon, University Network), found a station underneath with repetitive African type singing/music; random checking 0450-0522. Possibly reactivated R. Nigeria Kaduna? QRM too strong to tell exact language or to tune sharp audio.

<https://app.box.com/s/efv6kh8ots2vvuzpefq17zb7qhbb8fyz>
poor quality recording of talk (0:00-1:30) and music (1:30-2:25).

Appreciate any comments or observations! (Ron Howard, Asilomar State Beach, CA, EtÛn E1, antenna: 100' long wire, dxldyg via DX LISTENING DIGEST)

Since Kaduna did reactivate recently I'm putting it here (gh, DXLD)

** NIGERIA. 9689.9, Dec 27 at 0702, VON in French with schedule announcement, fair; at 0711 check, nothing on 7255- (Glenn Hauser, OK, DX LISTENING DIGEST)

also tonight 1800+, 9689.9 is on with the English service, while the usual 7255 and 15120 DRM seem to be off (or may be just inaudible due to QRM or bad propagation respectively. But I believe they're off).
73 (Thorsten Hallmann, 1847 UT Dec 28, dxldyg via DX LISTENING DIGEST)

at 1940 UT on Dec 28: Nigeria accurate poor signal on 9689.895 kHz, hit heavily by REE Noblejas co-channel on even 9690.0 kHz latter S=8-9. wb (Wolfgang B.schel, DX LISTENING DIGEST)

Tonight, by 1754, both 9690 and 15120 DRM are on, music until IS right now at 1757. Link to live stream has been removed from homepage, VON scope is audible on demand, but not every day's edition, and only website is given in this files - no time or frequency, ID as VON Abuja. As nothing is heard any more on even frequencies at daytime, I wonder if there are still any programmes or broadcasts from Lagos/Ikorodu. Not heard for months. 73 (Thorsten Hallmann, Dec 29, dxldyg via WORLD OF RADIO 1806, DX LISTENING DIGEST)

Voice of Nigeria is currently audible on 9689.9 kHz with the English service at 1830 tune-in. Weak but fair signal here. This transmission is scheduled from 1800 to 1930 UT and is usually on 7255 which is inaudible here, but sometimes they switch to 9690 - a much better frequency for reception in Europe at this time. 73s (Dave, Caversham Berks, Kenny, Lowe HF225 / 25m long wire. Dec 29, BDXC-UK yg via WORLD OF RADIO 1806, DXLD)

Noted at 1940 UT on Dec 28, V of Nigeria accurate poor signal on 9689.895 kHz, hit heavily by REE Noblejas Spanish co-channel on even 9690.0 kHz latter S=8-9 level. At 2205 UT was a string visible on 11769.754 kHz, but I guess was rather a PLC or electricity interference? (Wolfgang B,schel, wwdxc BC-DX TopNews Dec 28, dxldyg via DXLD)

Noted today Tue Dec 29 around 1900-1930 UT AHEAD of lower REE 9690 signal, S=8-9 here in central Europe. A Program could well understand! Once again as always on 9689.895 kHz (B,schel, DXLD)

Voice of Nigeria, 9690, 0711 29 DEC - SINPO = 35233. French?, female announcer, 0710z male announcer, 0720z female interviews male. QSB=moderate rate, modulation somewhat muffled, lo-fi, but strong and steady (did they finally repair transmitter?), occasionally fades approach noise floor. 0728z musical interlude, rhythmic instruments. 0730z male announcer in different (African?) language(?). 07302z short flute-like interlude fb male announcer with music continuing in the background (// 7255 nothing heard). sf113.2, a5, k1, geomag: very quiet. 250kw, beamAz 7 , bearing 62 . Sangean ATS505 w/Kaito KA33 active loop in west facing window. Received at Las Vegas, United States, 12234KM from transmitter at Abuja-Lugbe. Local time: 2311 (Rodney Johnson, NV, dxldyg via DX LISTENING DIGEST)

9689.895, accurate nice S=9 signal at 0724 UT on our winter season morning path from West Africa into Germany. Heard radioplay in French to the crowd, seemingly according to announcement "Development program" of La Voix du Nigeria", "au revoir" in French at 0728 UT. Then flute xylophone drums music from that area til 0733 UT, likely Hausa? language spoken by the male announcer. Mentioned Malabo and Maghreb. Nil on 7255v (Wolfgang B,schel, Dec 30, DX LISTENING DIGEST)

** NORTH AMERICA. 6930-USB, Wolverine Radio, 0008-0052 25 Dec. Nice program of Christmas-themed blues songs, closing just after 0100 with digital bleeps/bleeps (Dan Sheedy, Moonlight Beach, CA E5/6m X wire, DX LISTENING DIGEST)

** NORTH AMERICA. 6951.0-AM, Dec 26 at 0107, pirate music at S8; next check 0132, announcement, ad? and into CW message, copied last part of it, -- CHER'', back to music; 0133 plays Lincolnshire Poacher IS and nothing more. Must be Bangalore Poacher as on this frequency last week. HF Undergrounders agree,
<http://www.hfunderground.com/board/index.php/topic,25334.0.html>
and myteaquinn copied probably the same code message 10 minutes earlier, apparently with some errors, as:
A C H E R T H I S I S T H E B A N A L O R E P O A C I I E R
(Glenn Hauser, OK, DX LISTENING DIGEST)

** NORTH AMERICA. 6950.0-AM, Dec 27 at 0138, just as I tune in very weak S5 signal, I hear an ID in form of e-mail address from Radio True North (Glenn Hauser, OK, DX LISTENING DIGEST)

** NORTH AMERICA. A pirate you might hear is XFM shortwave (usually 6975). Believe he is west coast. Has a very sporadic schedule though (Lou KF4RCA Johnson, GA, Dec 24, DX LISTENING DIGEST) I have, but not lately (gh)

** OKLAHOMA [and non]. 530, Dec 29 at 0253 UT, R. Enciclopedia, CUBA has some distorted QRM, so is K530AM, Vance AFB out of order? By 1900 UT it's normal and alone (Glenn Hauser, OK, DX LISTENING DIGEST)

** OKLAHOMA [and non]. 800, Dec 28 at 1340 UT, KQCV OKC is OFF! As of 1625 UT check, OG&E System Watch has more than 57K outages across central OK; more than 8000 in OKC proper, many more in suburbs, including almost 4000 in Mustang, close to the KQCV site (and 1254 in Enid, but so far only a few power glitches here). 800 still off 5 hours later.

Even when KQCV is actively gospel-huxtering English in the evenings, gospel-huxtering in Spanish can be heard along with it, no doubt the super-powering TWR 800 BONAIRE.

XEROK 800 is still negligible but supposedly on the air at very low power. The new 2015 IRCA Mexican Log still has it as 50/50 kW, no mention of any degradation; likewise the new 2016 WRTH: despite numerous non-logs from myself and others the last several months.

800, Dec 29 at 1325 UT, KQCV OKC is back on, and probably considerably earlier, having been off at midday yesterday. Didn't get anything useful in its absence (Glenn Hauser, OK, DX LISTENING DIGEST)

** OKLAHOMA. 1120, Dec 29 circa 1900 UT, KETU Catoosa/Sperry/Tulsa is OFF; weather-related? Maybe.

1120, Dec 30 at 1925 UT, Spanish, with OSU PSA and 918 area code, so KETU, Sperry/Catoosa/Tulsa, La Ket' is back on following yesterday's outage (more reliable now that it's not just music fill, but still subject to absences for no particular obvious reason like power failure) (Glenn Hauser, OK, DX LISTENING DIGEST)

** OKLAHOMA. 1210, Dec 26 at 0145, ``Today's Best Country, 12-10 KGYN'', into Xmas music. Guymon 10 kW station is back to old trix, failing to protect Philadelphia at night as has been the case for a few nights now. They still have a CP for 50/39/10 kW, which if it ever happen, will give them the option of cheating with 50 kW non-direxional night as well as day. Why not? Other stations get away with

it, like KNZZ 1100 (Glenn Hauser, OK, DX LISTENING DIGEST)

** OKLAHOMA. 1230, Dec 29 at 1354 UT, nothing but fill music on this now-talk station until 1400 UT sharp, no ID and into CBS News; steady groundwave already over the graveyard, certainly our nearest, WBBZ Ponca City. Talk after the news probably Beck (Glenn Hauser, Enid, DX LISTENING DIGEST)

** OKLAHOMA [and non]. 1460, Dec 29 at 1531 UT, I'm still not hearing KZUE El Reno, and may have overlooked its absence since the latest ice storm. As of 1815 UT Dec 29, OG&E Systemwatch shows 3168 customers in El Reno powerless (and 875 in Enid, but never us, whew! Circa noon ice is crashing off tree branches, temp barely reaching unfreezing).

Instead on 1460, still skywave at 1539 UT Dec 29 from KCLE, mentioning Burleson during buy-and-sell call-in, 817 area codes, Old Texas Brewing Co., et al. Same show still going at 1620 UT, mixed with another English station with sports talk, perhaps nearest KKOY Chanute KS, but could even be skywave still from KXNO Des Moines IA.

Closer to local mean noon I seek KZUE again at 1900 UT: just a mixture of weak low-noon skywave, so KZUE is definitely off.

1460, KZUE El Reno is still AWOL, Dec 30 at 1919 UT on caradio: power still out following Dec 26-27 icestorm. Instead weak mix of skywave signals, one with football talk.

1460, Dec 30 at 1929 UT, ESPN Radio and at 1930 UT CCI from station mentioning Burleson, missed ID for an FM; 1953 UT C&W music.

Burleson and C&W is certainly KCLE a.k.a. Cleburne TX; nearest ESPN on 1460 is KXPB, 5 kW ND in Kearney NE. (KCLE used to be ESPN till it flipped to The Outlaw last May; KBZO Lubbock TX is ESPN, but Deportes, i.e. Spanish).

KZUE is still missing Dec 30 at 1812 UT check (Glenn Hauser, Enid, DX LISTENING DIGEST)

** OKLAHOMA [and non]. 1640, Dec 28 at 0316 UT, KZLS Enid-OKC is open carrier/dead air yet again; some weak talk underneath and at 0357 UT, probably WTNH Biloxi MS. KZLS still dead air at 0630 UT and still at 1350 UT. We have an ice storm around here with considerable power outages, but the site east of Hennessey obviously has power; just can't get any programming, a very frequent situation when there is nothing untoward to explain it.

1640, Dec 29 at 0255 UT, KZLS is again/still in dead air with hum. See USA for KBJA, WJSP logs. Still open carrier/DA at 0720 UT, 1407 UT,

and 1900 UT chex. It's really amazing how many hours are wasted this way. How does KZLS make any money, retain any listeners? (Glenn Hauser, Enid, DX LISTENING DIGEST)

** OKLAHOMA. Xmas eve, UT Dec 25, our annual pilgrimage to Enid's Xmas spectaculars: the light show surrounding a house at the south-side intersextion of Pheasant Run and Club House Drive, on the extreme west side of town, says tune to 97.7, playing a good selection of pop Xmas music in stereo, starting with Mannheim Steamroller as we drive up circa 0300 UT. Part 15 is OK right here, but losing it before we exit to the nearest artery a couple blocks away, Garland.

Then to the NE corner of Oak and Oakwood, that fenced-off oil well lot, which every Xmas puts up ``Singing Christmas Trees`` a less elaborate light show, this one with a few Chipmunk tunes on 89.5, in degraded modulation at 0320 UT Dec 25. Also short Part-15 range (Glenn Hauser, OK, DX LISTENING DIGEST)

** OKLAHOMA [and non]. ANOTHER ice storm has hit us. In Enid, anyway, it's not as bad as the Thanksgiving one. Icy limbs but all the leaves are gone now, and the weakest were already broken. But there are still a lot of power lines down elsewhere so time for another FM bandscan on the PL-880 to see what's abnormal (in addition to 800 KQCV OKC missing, separate log). Dec 28 at 1352+ UT:

88.3, K202BY Enid, Family Radio, OFF since last storm, never back
88.5, KZTH Piedmont, continuous hi pitched tone, and barely audible
lo pitched tone at same time! Yet parent station 89.7 KJTH is OK
89.1, K206CA Enid, Oasis, had been on, but now OFF
89.3, KIEL Loyal, seems also off, tho not always audible
90.3, KHEV Fairview probably off, tho not always audible
90.5, KGVV Goltry OFF
93.7, KSPI Stillwater seems off; no, at 1434 UT on but weak
95.7, KXLS Lahoma/Enid, OFF
96.9, KQOB Enid/Crescent/OKC, OFF

[this allows another ``Bob``, on 97.1 to be audible: at 1420 UT, after Wichita weather, ``97-1 Bob FM, where Bob plays everything`` such as country-rock to follow: KIBB 18.5/18.5 kW Haven KS --- NW of Wichita, toward Hutchinson, not to be confused with South Haven on OK border]

99.7, KNAH Mustang, OFF
104.1, KMGL OKC is on, and finally no more Xmas music
105.1, KOSB Perry, OFF
105.5, K288FX, North Enid, on but only NOISE, evidently open feed from primary, which is KYLV 88.9, but I thought it was OK. Back to normal later
105.7, KRDR Alva OFF, so KROU Spencer is again audible carefully

107.1, KNID North Enid OFF

Later check starting at 1740 UT for anything different:

88.5, KZTH is OFF, no more intoning

88.9, KYLV is apparently on but weak (see 105.5 above)

After 1811 UT, on more selective caradio,

90.9, KOKF Edmond, Air One is OFF; normally merges with same on 91.1
KKRD Enid, still on

97.5, KPAK Alva, is OFF

106.7, KTUZ Okarche is OFF; Spanish, had been on earlier today

AM:

800, KQCV OKC is still off

1280, KSOK Arkansas City KS, just across the border, is the only other
notable absence on midday groundwave

1640, KZLS Enid-Hennessey-OKC is dead air again

On cable TV, KOCM, Suddenlink 6 and 106 is missing ñ just black, no
error message. Antenna is still getting a signal on RF 46, tho bad ---
this one is always marginal (Glenn Hauser, Enid, DX LISTENING DIGEST)

FM bandscan on caradio, Dec 30 at 1955 UT finds several stations still
absent following Dec 26-27 icestorm:

88.3, K202BY, Enid, Family Radio still off (since November icestorm)

89.1, K206CA, Enid, Oasis, still off

90.5, KGVV, Goltry, off

93.7, KSPI, Stillwater off? Weak signal with C&W, probably something
else, maybe a mix

95.7, KXLS, Lahoma/Enid, still off

98.1, WWLS, The Village, apparently off again

106.7, KTUZ, Okarche, off, no Spanish

107.1, KNID, North Enid, still off

(Glenn Hauser, Enid, DX LISTENING DIGEST)

** OMAN. Radio Sultanate of Oman in English again after 1500/1600 Dec
25:

1400-1500 15140 THU 100 kW / 315 deg WeEu English, as scheduled B-15

1500-1610 15140 THU 100 kW / 315 deg WeEu English, instead of Arabic

from 1610 15140 THU 100 kW / 315 deg WeEu Arabic, as scheduled B-15:

<http://swldxbulgaria.blogspot.bg/2015/12/radio-sultanate-of-oman-in-english.html>

-- 73! (Ivo Ivanov, B'lgariya, dxldyg via DXLD)

Surprisingly good reception of Radio Sultanate of Oman, December 26:

0830-1000 13600 THU 100 kW / 220 deg EAf Arabic, scheduled 0400-1000

<http://swldxbulgaria.blogspot.bg/2015/12/surprisingly-good-reception-of-radio.html>

-- 73! (Ivo Ivanov, B'lgariya, Dec 26, dxldyg via DXLD)

9540 kHz heard Omani broadcast service, but heard no "Radio Oman" ID, only in English like "?90.4? ... FM". S=9+30dB powerful at 0430 UT. Seemingly 0200 Arabic, but English 03-05 UT. 04-05 UT NOT ON SCHEDULED 13600 kHz, but heard at 0520 UT in Arabic, on exact 13600.002 kHz at S=8-9 level in 'like skip over signal' zone between Oman and Qatar (Wolfgang B,schel, BC-DX 26 Dec via DXLD)

9540, Radio Sultanate of Oman presumed the one at 0350 with rap music to 0354 and a male DJ introducing a Boney M song and abruptly off at 0356 ñ Fair Dec 27 (Mark Coady-ON, ODXA YRX via DXLD)

** PAKISTAN. Random transmission of Radio Pakistan (PBC) on Dec 29 0935 & 1000 on 15730 ISL 250 kW / 313 deg to WeEu Urdu and off at 1020 <http://swldxbulgaria.blogspot.bg/2015/12/random-transmission-of-radio-pakistan.html>

-- 73! (Ivo Ivanov, QTH: Sofia, Bulgaria, Equipment: Sony ICF-2001D 30 m. long wire, dxldyg via DX LISTENING DIGEST)

** PALAU. No signal from Furusato no Kaze via T8WH, Angel 5 Dec 26: 1000-1230 9960 HBN 100 kW / 345 deg NEAs Japanese Sat, videos Dec 12 <http://swldxbulgaria.blogspot.bg/2015/12/unidentidied-probably-furusato-no-kaze.html>

-- 73! (Ivo Ivanov, B'lgariya, Dec 26, dxldyg via DXLD)

** PANAMA. COMIENZAN A DARSE CAMBIOS EN EMISORAS DE FM DE PANAM; by gruporadioescuchaargentino

Un reordenamiento en las frecuencias de las emisoras en la banda de Frecuencia Modulada (FM) se est· dando con la conclusin de este ao y el inicio de 2016 en la capital y otras provincias del pas.

Esta medida ha iniciado en la provincia de Panam· para reordenar las frecuencias asignadas cada 400 mega[sic]hercios dentro de un ·rea de cobertura.

Este reajuste tambin se realizar· con emisoras de FM en las provincias de Darin, Coln, Cocl, Herrera, Los Santos y Veraguas.

La Autoridad de los Servicios Pblicos (Asep) tom esta decisin para que los concesionarios de las frecuencias puedan brindar un servicio de ptima calidad sin interferencias, las que se han detectado, incluso, con estaciones radiales de Costa Rica.

Para llevar adelante estos cambios se ha establecido una metodologa, mediante la cual se ha establecido un orden cronolgico, dividiendo a las emisoras en tres grupos (tomada de Panam·America.com via GRA blog via DXLD)

** PERU. 4955, R. Cultural Amauta tuned at 2255 UT on Dec 18 from SDR remote unit at DL0AO site at DARC Amberg-Germany using SAM Beverage with fair signal, no QRM. Instrumental hymn, several IDs by man and woman, occasional commercials, announcements, news. Overall nice signal - SINPO 35443+ (Bruce W. Churchill-CA-USA, DXplorer Dec 23 via BC-DX 26 Dec via DXLD)

** PERU. 5460 kHz, Radio Bolívar, Bolívar - La Libertad, hablando de alg'n movimiento popular, OM ``ha liberado`` después se pasó música tradicional peruana, SINPO 24122, Día 23 Diciembre 2015 en 0011 UT. Yo creo que emiten con muy baja potencia; emisoras de Per' siempre llegan ``bien`` en mi región.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mD5xGRkNcqE&feature=youtu.be>

RX: Tecsun S-2000, Antenna: Long wire 700 Meters (Daniel Wyllyans, Nova Xavantina MT, Brazil, Dec 27, Hard-Core-DX mailing list via WORLD OF RADIO 1806, DXLD)

** PERU. 5980. 2330-2344 UT. 23.12.2015. Per'. R. Chaski. Programa: ¡Momento decisivo! con la temática del gozo cristiano e ID: ¡Red Radio Integridad! SINPO: 35343 con QRN marcado (Claudio Galaz T., Receptor: Realistic DX-160. Antena: Hilo de 30+ Tierra + Balun 4:1, Lugar: Ovalle, Chile, condiglistas yg via DXLD)

[and non]. 5980, Dec 26 at 0059, only one JBA carrier, R. Chaski; a second one cuts on at 0100:10, i.e. BBC Hindi via UAE is late, about the same weakness. Then I keep listening attentively to the two beating against each other, slightly different frequencies obviously, by off-tuning to 5979.6 USB. Back to only one carrier as one cuts off at 0104:46.5*, so now we have the new base datum of R. Chaski autot cutoffs to precess by 6 to 8 seconds later per night for months to come before another reset.

5980, Dec 27 at 0104 two weak carriers on slightly different frequencies, the stronger one with traces of modulation, until it cuts off at 0104:53*, which is 6.5 seconds later than last night at 0104:47.5*, so it's Radio Chaski back on track with its slipping autotimer, leaving a bit from BBC UAE still carriering on 5980 (Glenn Hauser, OK, WORLD OF RADIO 1806, DX LISTENING DIGEST)

5980, 0001-0014 UT 27.12.2015. Per'. R. Chaski. Avisos de la emisora y programa de estudios bíblicos. Grabación: <https://soundcloud.com/claudio-radioham-dx/5980-r-chaski-27-12-2015-0001-utcogg> (Claudio Galaz T., Receptor: Tecsun PL-660, Antena: Varilla, QTH: Barraza Bajo, IV Región, Chile, SWARL call sign: CE2006SWL, condiglista yg via DXLD)

** PERU. 6173. 0005-0020 UT 24.12.2015. Per'. R. Tawantinsuyo.

Programa de análisis periodístico acerca de los abusos del Estado en el tratamiento de campesinos, junto a un recuerdo de la fiesta de Navidad. SINPO: 45343 (Claudio Galaz T., Receptor: Realistic DX-160. Antena: Hilo de 30+ Tierra + Balun 4:1, Lugar: Ovalle, Chile, condiglistas yg via DXLD)

6173. 2330-2340 UT 26.12.2015. Per'. R. Tawantisuyo. Mensajes en idioma español e indígenas sin identificar. Grabación: <https://soundcloud.com/claudio-radioham-dx/6173-rtawantisuyo-26-12-2015-2330-utc> (Claudio Galaz T., Receptor: Tecsun PL-660, Antena: Varilla, QTH: Barraza Bajo, IV Región, Chile, SWARL call sign: CE2006SWL, condiglista yg via DXLD) Actually more like 6173.9 (gh, DXLD)

**** POLAND. POLAND'S LAWMAKERS APPROVE NEW LAW ON STATE MEDIA CONTROL**
Dec 30, 4:29 PM EST

WARSAW, Poland (AP) -- Poland's parliament on Wednesday approved new legislation that gives the government control of state radio and television stations in a move that has raised EU concern.

Following a heated debate, the lower chamber voted 232-152 with 34 abstentions to adopt amendments to the media law that were proposed by the ruling conservative Law and Justice party.

If it takes effect, the legislation would give the Treasury Minister the authority to appoint heads of the state-run radio and TV, would limit the number of members in the supervisory boards and the boards of managers and would terminate the terms of the current management, appointed by the previous establishment.

The Law and Justice argues that under current leadership state radio and TV fail to fulfill their role of uniting and educating the nation and serve as means of propaganda for the previous ruling team, now in the opposition.

Opponents say that the new legislation would threaten media independence and freedom of expression, by putting them under direct government control.

The amendments need approval from the Senate and the president, who are also controlled by the ruling party and are expected to grant their consent.

Deputy head of the European Commission, Frans Timmermans wrote to Poland's foreign and justice ministers on Wednesday to express concern for Poland's media freedom and to seek assurance that the new legislation respects EU principles concerning the rights of the media.

Poland's Foreign Minister Witold Waszczykowski said late Wednesday he has not yet received "any such letter."

The fast pace and the nature of the reforms undertaken by the government since it took power last month have led to large street protests in Warsaw and some other Polish cities and have alarmed some EU leaders. 2015 The Associated Press (via Mike Cooper, DXLD)

POLISH GOVERNMENT TAKES CONTROL OF PUBLIC MEDIA WITH NEW LAW
(c) AFP/File / by Michel Mrozinski | The measure is the latest controversial legislation introduced by the ruling Law and Justice (PiS) party of Jaroslaw Kaczynski (L), pictured with Polish President Andrzej Duda (R) on November 13, 2015

WARSAW (AFP) - Poland's conservative government took control of state media Wednesday after new legislation giving it the power to directly appoint the heads of public broadcasters was rushed through parliament, despite EU concern and condemnation from rights watchdogs.

The media bill, which was only submitted to the conservative-dominated parliament on Monday evening, was easily approved by 232 lawmakers, with 152 voting against and 34 MPs abstaining.

Under the new law, senior figures in public radio and television will in future be appointed -- and sacked -- by the treasury minister, and no longer through contests by the National Broadcasting Council (KRRiT).

The new legislation will also see the current managers and supervisory board members of Poland's public broadcasters fired with immediate effect.

The measure is the latest controversial legislation introduced by the ruling Law and Justice (PiS) party of Jaroslaw Kaczynski, which won a general election in October.

On Monday, PiS-backed President Andrzej Duda passed into law a reform of Poland's top constitutional court, despite mass protests and claims by the opposition that the changes threaten judicial independence.

In a joint statement, international media rights organisations such as Reporters Without Borders, the European Broadcasting Union and the European Federation, said they were "outraged by the proposed bill, hastily introduced by the majority party in Poland".

In a letter to Polish officials, the Association of European Journalists also voiced "serious concern".

It said the law would "effectively bring public service television and radio under the direct control of the government, involve the dismissal of respected journalists for political reasons, and lead to a systematic editorial bias in the content of... broadcasts in favour of the present government."

European Commission Vice President chief Frans Timmermans was asking the Polish government for information about the media bill as "freedom and pluralism of the media (are) crucial for society and rule of law," commission spokesman Margaritis Schinas said in a tweet ahead of the parliamentary vote.

The ruling PiS party has defended the legislation, said its moves were designed to cut costs and boost "professional standards and ethics."

"As the first step, we will change the principles of electing the public television (TVP) and Polish Radio (PR) officials," said Krzysztof Czapanski, deputy minister of culture, in charge of reforming the Polish media market.

"In the next phase, we will pass a law on national media which will change the functioning of public media and the rules for their financing," he added.

PiS wants to transform the public radio and television stations as well as the PAP news agency into cultural institutions overseen by a national media council, due to be founded by the new government.

Until now the three have been commercial companies run by the state.

The Polish opposition said that with the new legislation the conservatives had simply seized power over the country's public media.

To take effect, the new law must still be passed by the PiS-controlled Senate and signed by President Duda. by Michel Mrozinski (via Mike Cooper, WORLD OF RADIO 1806, DXLD)

** RUSSIA. 6000, Adygeyskoje Radio log 1828 UT, via Armavir Krasnodar center: Nicht gerade alltaeglich: Adygeisch per Kurzwelle. Danke fuer den schoenen Tipp. Heute Mon Dec 21 um 1900 UT mit nettem Intervallsignal zu Beginn und SIO 333, leider etwas schwach moduliert, aber nicht minder interessant. Offenbar wohl die einzige Rundfunk-KW-Sendung die aus Russland noch verblieben ist.

Diese ungewoehnliche Sprache kann man auch unter
<<http://www.adygtv.ru/programs/radio-inoveshchanie/broadcasted/>>
sogar noch mal nach hoeren (Daniel Kaehler-D, A-DX Dec 21 via BC-DX 26 Dec via DXLD)

** SAUDI ARABIA [and non]. Listen to the attached recording of Qatar remote. 1st part: ARS BSKSA Arabic on 9714.981 kHz S=9+15dB strong carrier, B u t o n l y 5% modulation,

2nd part: s a m e signal S=9+15dB strength on nearby channel 9695 kHz BBC Oman in Persian, but much perfect modulation. 73 wb (Wolfgang B,schel, DX LISTENING DIGEST)

9715 is shown as 500 kW Riyadh in Shortwave Stations of the World frequency table in WRTH 2016, but annotated with a ^ --- which is not explained in introductory key to symbols of that listing. This discussion arises from speculation whether the Yemeni clandestine on 11860 is from an old Jeddah transmitter (Glenn Hauser, DXLD)

9714.921, Checked BSKSA HQ program at 0410 UT on Dec 26, at Doha Qatar remote SDR unit. Powerhouse S=9+30dB carrier signal though, but very low like 'submarine underneath' modulation, only tiny 5% modulation. Using - according antenna request in ITU/HFCC file - a rather fountain like NVIS antenna to serve Saudi Arabian peninsula and Near East / ERI / SOM target.

Former 9580 kHz, at present settled on 9715 kHz for few seasons now. These non-directional transmissions from Saudi Arabia heard hardly in our European morning hours, far westernmost - but rather poor - signals heard always in remote Greece and Calabria Italy SDR posts.

At same time in 4-5 UT slot on Dec 26 heard at SAME Power level at Doha Qatar remote receiver: 9540 OMAN, q.v.; 9744.997 BAHRAIN, q.v. (Wolfgang B,schel, BC-DX 26 Dec via DXLD)

** SAUDI ARABIA. (Excellent broadcast). 11930, 12/24 1939-1950 Saudi Intl. Radio, Riyadh, in Arabic. OM talks, long talks; excellent signal and very good modulation, 55544 (DXer JosÉ Ronaldo Xavier (JRX), Cabedelo - Brazil, Degen DE1103 / Tecsun S-2000, Portable Telescopic antenna, Hard-Core-DX mailing list via DXLD) And not a hint of the Cuban radio war, evidently, I=5 (Glenn Hauser, DXLD)

** SIKKIM. INDIA [former SIKKIM state], 4835, AIR Gangtok from 0104.5 UT tune in, SDR remote Perseus unit at DL0AO site at DARC Amberg-Germany site. Sign on instrumental music followed by man announcer and local music (instrumental and male singer) to 0120 UT. Man to 0125 UT then another man to 0129.5 UT. Back to earlier man at 0130 to tune out at 0134 UT. Decent signal using NE beverage antenna which drops right across Indian subcontinent, SINPO 33433 with co-channel QRM from 4840 kHz (Bruce W. Churchill-CA-USA, DXplorer Dec 23 via BC-DX 26 Dec via DXLD)

4840=WWCR? Adjacent, not co-; and some DXers are obsessed with the gender of each announcement, as if that proved anything, except perhaps, in deeply repressed societies. And how can you be sure an individual heard doesn't have an unusually hi/lo voice for his/her gender, or even be trans-gender, wherein voices don't change much? Bruce must not be an Hungarian (Glenn Hauser, DXLD)

** SOLOMON ISLANDS. 5020, Wantok FM 96.3 relay via SIBC, 1425, Dec 25 with pop & Christmas songs; no real announcements, just playing music with very brief IDs between every 3-4 songs. Special extended Christmas Day schedule (Ron Howard, Asilomar State Beach, CA, EtÛn E1, antenna: 100' long wire, dxldyg via DX LISTENING DIGEST)

5020, Dec 25 I'm not awake until 1430 but check 60m anyway half a sesquihour after sunrise --- and here is a JBA carrier --- I bet SIBC is on late for Xmas. Ron Howard soon confirms that: ``5020, Wantok FM 96.3 relay via SIBC, 1425, Dec 25 with pop & Christmas songs``; I also have JBA carriers on 4835 Australia, 4885 Korea, 4940 China (Glenn Hauser, OK, DX LISTENING DIGEST)

5020 - Wantok FM 96.3 relay via SIBC, Dec 26 another day of extended broadcasting; many Christmas songs; 1401 & 1423 played "Silent Night"; still on at 1547 (Ron Howard, dxldyg via DX LISTENING DIGEST)

And still audible in Kauai, though weakly, at 17:52 tune-in which is close to an hour post-LSR. Seems like a decent carrier, but low modulation. Heard on an SDR-IQ with about 30' random wire. 73, and a late Mele kalikimaka to all dxld readers! (Walt Salmaniw, Dec 26, ibid.)

5020, SIBC? or Wantok FM 96.3 relay? 1348-1602, Dec 29; unable to determine if it was SIBC programming or Wantok FM relay programming; certainly was not the normal format for Wantok FM, which in the past was always non-stop pop songs and some brief canned IDs; today playing pop songs, but with a live DJ and announcements; too weak to make out the language; if SIBC programming, I would have expected breaks at the top of the hour for ID, etc., but there were none. Whichever it was, they are on another extended schedule (Ron Howard, CA, ibid.)

Hi Glenn, Thanks very much to Christoph Ratzer (Austria) for sending me a recording he made today at 1758 on 5020. The announcer in Pijin that he recorded sound like the same one I was hearing earlier. Christoph's audio had weather alerts for heavy rains and flooding, so that is the reason SIBC did not sign off today at 1200, but continued on and must have been giving weather advisories during their usual off time of 1200-1900, but was too weak for me to make them out. So clearly NOT Wantok FM relay today, but the whole

time was SIBC programming. Appreciate Christoph's assistance! (Ron Howard, California, Dec 29, *ibid.*)

Hi Glenn, Here is Christoph's excellent SIBC audio from yesterday - <https://remotedx.wordpress.com/2015/12/29/audio-solomon-islands-2/> Dec 30, noted open carrier and faint audio 1335 + 1357, on 5020. So looks as if they are continuing with extended broadcasts to give weather advisories (Ron Howard, Dec 30, *ibid.*)

[and non]. 5020, Dec 29 at 1305, JBA carrier from presumed SIBC on late again. Ron Howard agrees, including, ``5020, SIBC? or Wantok FM 96.3 relay? 1348-1602, Dec 29; unable to determine if it was SIBC programming or Wantok FM relay programming``.

I hear many other JBA carriers like this on 60m around 1300, on frequencies matching India, China, Tibet, East Turkistan, Tajikistan.

5020, Dec 30 at 1325, JBA carrier from SIBC, on late once again. Ron Howard says was because of typhoon warnings (Glenn Hauser, Enid, DX LISTENING DIGEST)

** SOMALILAND. 7120, R. Hargeisa, Dec 26 with transmitter turned on at 1457; open carrier till *1500 start of their National Anthem (marching band); 1501 reciting from the Qur'an followed by "Radio Hargeisa" ID. My local sunrise 1518 and Hargeisa sunset 1452 UT (Ron Howard, Asilomar State Beach, CA, EtUn E1, antenna: 100' long wire, dxldyg via DX LISTENING DIGEST)

** SOUTH AFRICA. 3320, Dec 25 at 0344, Sonder Grense is good and strong at S9+20 with music unseemingly especially Xmassy, as it's summer, after all; and more than 3345, Channel Africa in English at only S9 (Glenn Hauser, OK, DX LISTENING DIGEST)

** SOUTH CAROLINA. 17610, 12/24 1933-1938, Brother Stair, Furman, in English. Pastor Brother Stair makes his interminable and Alzheimerian preaching; good signal, fair broadcast, 45433 (DXer JosÉ Ronaldo Xavier (JRX), Cabedelo - Brazil, Degen DE1103 / Tecsun S-2000, Portable Telescopic antenna, Hard-Core-DX mailing list via DXLD) See also USA: WRMI

** SRI LANKA. 11905, Dec 26 at 0114, JBA carrier from China, as I await a slightly stronger one to cut on from SLBC, which it does at *0114:25.5, rating S3. Music prÉlude starts at 0114:46.5 as usual, and 2+1 mis-timesignal ends at 0115:17.5, sign-on in Hindi(?)

11905, Dec 27 at *0114:11.5, S3 carrier cuts on over the JBA Chinese one; 0114:46.5, music prÉlude starts; 0115:17.5, 2+1 timesignal ends by SLBC. These times vary little, so they are reliable within their

skewed off-time universe (Glenn Hauser, OK, DX LISTENING DIGEST)

** SRI LANKA. 7550 kHz: RFE/RL clear in Newfoundland before 1700 UT: I was checking this afternoon to see if All-India Radio had parked their DRM bus on the 7550 kHz spot yet at 1645 UT and heard a very clear AM signal instead. I don't know any Uzbek but the phonology seemed right for it to have been the RFE/RL Uzbek broadcast from Iranawila, Sri Lanka. I see the transmission direction is 340 degrees which, according to my little globe, should bring the signal dead overhead here in Newfoundland.

It was very clear with little noise and no interference, a surprise for me at this time of day (1:15 pm local time). Of course the signal must have reached me from a NNE direction, so the vast majority of that path was in darkness.

The (presumptive) RFE/RL transmitter dutifully turned off (though with no apparent sign-off identification) just a minute or two before 1700 UT (Philip Hiscock, NL, Dec 28, dxldyg via DX LISTENING DIGEST)

Iranwila making it to Western Atlantic at mid-day --- Further to my reception yesterday of RFE/RL in Uzbek from Iranwila, Sri Lanka, on 7550 kHz in the early afternoon here in Newfoundland, I am listening now to a clear signal from perhaps the same transmitter, of the VOA in Pashto, on 13590 kHz. It is just before noon here in Eastern Newfoundland (1525 UT). My Satellit 750 with a short (three-metre) wire attached to the whip and strung around my room is easily getting the station weakly but quite clearly: say SINPO 34333. (The whip alone is too noisy.) The little bit of "interference" is just a fairly inobtrusive het. If I knew Pashto, I'd easily be able to follow everything. I am however only guessing that it is the VOA Pashto as I have not heard an ID, but it seems very likely.

This frequency is listed as having the same 340-degree direction that the 7550 Uzbek broadcast has later in the day. That direction takes the signal over India, Afghanistan, Moscow, Oslo and on to me in St. John's (Philip Hiscock, NL, Dec 29, ibid.)

** SUDAN [and non]. 15550, Dec 25 at 1548, R. Dabanga with poor signal via VATICAN, and jammed by a 1 kHz tone. Carrier peaks detected at 15549 and 15551, so not a single off-frequency carrier to make a het, which the Sudanese sometimes employ instead, but instead a co-channel transmission modulating 1000 Hz tone.

13800, Dec 29 at 1527, R. Tamazuj with flutter, but seems to be underneath another carrier at S9+20, so is a site swap about to occur? No, R. Dabanga jingle starts at 1530 sounding the same. The 13800 switch from MADAGASCAR to Vatican is not until 1600 (or rather,

1557?). Meanwhile 15550 is // 13800, except 15550 is about 5 seconds behind. 15550 is already VATICAN at 1500-1630. Before 1500 or after 1630 would be the time to search for R. Puntland on 13800 (Glenn Hauser, OK, DX LISTENING DIGEST)

Reception of Radio Tamazuĵ & Radio Dabanga, Dec.28

1500-1530 on 13800 MDC 250 kW / 340 deg to EaAf Sudanese Arabic

1500-1530 on 15400 ISS 200 kW / 138 deg to EaAf Sudanese Arabic

1500-1530 on 15550 SMG 200 kW / 150 deg to EaAf Sudanese Arabic

1530-1600 on 13800 MDC 250 kW / 340 deg to EaAf Sudanese Arabic

1530-1630 on 15550 SMG 200 kW / 150 deg to EaAf Sudanese Arabic

1600-1630 on 13800 SMG 200 kW / 145 deg to EaAf Sudanese Arabic

<http://swldxbulgaria.blogspot.bg/2015/12/reception-of-radio-tamazuj-radio.html>

-- 73! (Ivo Ivanov, B'lgariya, dxldyg via DXLD)

** SWEDEN [and non]. SAQ Grimeton 17.2 kHz --- Good reception this morning (0743-0806 UT 24/12) of SAQ Grimeton for their annual Christmas Eve transmission on 17.2 kHz. Due to the inclement weather here (must be getting soft in my old age..!) I abandoned the hill-top listening post and set up the receiver in the shed. Previous attempts in here have not been very successful due to high levels of local noise, but this morning was better. Turning off as many low-energy bulbs/Christmas lights as I could, SAQ was audible well above the noise.

A few pauses and interruptions whilst sending "VVV VVV VVV DE SAQ SAQ SAQ", the message began at exactly 0800 and ended 0806. Whilst tuning up the receiver, RDL on 18.1 kHz were sending a brief CW message at 0735 which allowed me to time to peak a few tuned circuits. DH038 Germany 23.4 kHz noted off-air, but good signal from NAA Cutler [Maine USA] on 24 kHz. Both UK stations on 19.6 & 22.1 kHz were strong. 73's & Season's Greetings all round (Nick, Buxton UK, Home-brew VLF set, Rank, Dec 24, BDXC-UK yg via DXLD)

If anyone missed it - they were S9+ with a Perseus SDR and a PA0RDT-design miniwhip at 8m in Norfolk - I recorded the transmission; see <http://g0kya.blogspot.co.uk/>
http://www.infotechcomms.co.uk/downloads/SAQ_241215.mp3
(Steve Nichols, ibid.)

** SWEDEN. Update schedule of Sala transmitter site on Dec 26

Radio Nord Revival

1100-1200 on 3975 SAL 005 kW / non-dir to WeEu Swedidh AM

1100-1200 on 6060 SAL 010 kW / non-dir to WeEu Swedidh LSB

1700-1800 on 3975 SAL 005 kW / non-dir to WeEu Swedidh AM

1700-1800 NF 6105 SAL 010 kW / non-dir to WeEu Swedidh LSB, ex 5940

Swedish DX Federation

1200-1400 on 3975 SAL 005 kW / non-dir to WeEu Swedidh AM
1200-1400 on 6060 SAL 010 kW / non-dir to WeEu Swedidh LSB
1800-2000 on 3975 SAL 005 kW / non-dir to WeEu Swedidh AM
1800-2000 on 5940 SAL 010 kW / non-dir to WeEu Swedidh LSB
<http://swldxbulgaria.blogspot.bg/2015/12/update-schedule-of-sala-transmitter.html>
(DX RE MIX NEWS #932 from Georgi Bancov and Ivo Ivanov, Dec 28, 2015,
via DXLD)

Update from the Sala transmitting site: our 5 kW rig is now working
well again and we will be on the air this Saturday, Dec. 26 as
follows:

1100-1200 UT Radio Nord Revival
1200-1300 UT Programme from the Swedish DX Federation SDXF
Frequencies: 3975 kHz AM 5 kW and 6060 kHz A3H 10 kW

1700-1800 UT Radio Nord Revival
1800-1900 UT Programme from the Swedish DX Federation SDXF
Frequencies: 3975 kHz AM 5 kW and 5940 kHz A3H 10 kW

Reception reports can be sent to qsl@sdxf.se or by post to Sveriges
DX-Förbundet, Box 1097, SE-40523 Göteborg, Sweden. All reports will be
verified by real QSL cards - not eQSLs - just the way Grandad used to
do it.

Merry Xmas and good listening! Ronny B Goode (on 'Radio Revival
Sweden' Facebook, 24 Dec via Alan Pennington, BDXC-UK yg via DXLD)

Hi All, Ronny B. Goode posted via his Facebook page that Radio Revival
is on 6105 kHz from 1700 to 1800 rather than on 5940 as previously
shown, this was due to interference on the other channel. The SDXF
programme at 1800 should still be on 5940 though (both in parallel
with 3975 kHz). (Alan Gale, UK, 1715 UT Dec 26, dxldyg via DX
LISTENING DIGEST)

Radio Nord Revival confirmed here at 1700 UT on 6105 (lsb) and 3975
kHz. Both quite weak although slightly better on 6105 here. 73s (Dave,
Caversham, UK, Kenny, Lowe HF225 / 25m long wire, BDXC-UK yg, Dec 26,
via DXLD)

Switched to 5940 kHz (from 6105) at 1800 UT for the SDXF programme,
which is fairly clear but weak here in southern England. Some splatter
from Romania on 5945 on wide filter. Still parallel to 3975 kHz which
is also quite weak here. Swedish talk and Christmas songs, carols. 73,
(Alan Pennington, Caversham, UK, AOR 7030plus, 30m longwire dxldyg via
DX LISTENING DIGEST)

5940, Swedish DX Federation, Radio Revival Sweden, Sala, 1825-1857,
26-12, English, commenting letters and reports from listeners, at 1830

Swedish, comments and songs. 32432 (Manuel M endez, Lugo, Spain, Logs in Friol, Tecsun PL-880, Sangen AT-909X, Cable antenna, 8 meters and Degen 31MS active loop antenna, ibid.)

Radio Nord Revival & Swedish DX Federation via Sala, December 26, videos

<http://swldxbulgaria.blogspot.bg/2015/12/update-schedule-of-sala-transmitter.html>
-- 73! (Ivo Ivanov, B'lgariya, Dec 26, dxldyg via DXLD)

** SYRIA. [Re 15-51:] RADIO REBELS: BERLIN GROUP MAKES TINY TRANSMITTERS FOR SYRIA --- First, wishing merry christmas for all of you. Friends, I post this article because I'd like to comment.

1. comment: The soul of the below-mentioned FM radio is a Raspberry PI computer. I read mentioning that hardware on the receiver list section of <http://www.sdrradio.org> Raspberry PI is a hardware for a SDR which has a narrow-band specification as can be seen on www.sdrradio.org.

2. comment: I don't want to offend anyone but I think these western idiots are unable to learn from the past:

From a legal point of view a code of conduct is only valid when you can enforce that. You are unable to enforce it in a war zone in a foreign country under a foreign law which rightly can enforce its anti-piracy laws on these NGO's and their "partners on the site". These "partners" are simply law-breakers. In a war zone court marshal can be imposed on them. Plus who can guarantee that these "mild" opposition groups are really "mild" and don't turn toward extremism? Formerly al-qaeda members were "freedom fighters" in Soviet-occupied Afghanistan. So, I want to see who will guarantee that these radios doesn't fall into extremist hands.

3. Who can insure that these stations don't cause interference to legitimate users - including foreign users - on the ground?
(Tibor Gaal, Hungary, Dec 25, dxldyg via DX LISTENING DIGEST)

And now the whole article:

RADIO REBELS: BERLIN GROUP MAKES TINY TRANSMITTERS FOR SYRIA
Frank Jordans, Associated Press
Updated 12:03 pm, Thursday, December 24, 2015

BERLIN (AP)   On the top floor of an old brick building in the heart of Berlin, a group of journalists and tech enthusiasts are working to spur the Syrian media revolution.

Their weapon is an unassuming black case the size of a shoebox that allows opposition radio stations in Syria to transmit inside hostile

territory.

Dubbed PocketFM, the device is basically a low-powered radio transmitter. Coupled with a satellite dish to receive new programs, a car battery for power and a one-meter (three-foot) antenna, it can broadcast FM radio within a 5-kilometer (3-mile) radius.

That's enough to cover a town or a city district, said Philipp Hochleichter, who oversees development of the device for the Berlin-based nonprofit organization Media in Cooperation and Transition {MICT; <http://www.mict-international.org> }.

The group has been training journalists in conflict zones for more than a decade and often relies on FM radio to reach populations in far-flung areas that don't have access to the Internet or smartphones. But when the group realized that shifting front lines and the brutal treatment of journalists meant operating large broadcast antenna could become too cumbersome or risky, it developed PocketFM.

It's now being used to covertly broadcast in nine locations, including two that are controlled by the Islamic State group, said Hochleichter. Connected to a solar panel, a PocketFM transmitter can theoretically work autonomously for long periods of time.

The project, which also includes compiling a daily best-of from nine cooperating radio stations that is beamed down by satellite, is financed by the German Foreign Ministry. It cooperates only with moderate opposition groups who have to abide by a code of conduct.

"Of course it's necessary for us to make sure they don't fall into propaganda scheme, which is very tough in Syria at the moment," said Najat Abdulhaq, a Palestinian journalist who manages the project.

Listeners might be surprised to find that aside from urgently needed information ó which borders are open, what are the prices in the market, how are refugees abroad faring ó there's a fair amount of light entertainment.

"People have a day-to-day life despite conflict," said Abdulhaq. "Despite the sadness and the war, people like to listen to music and even comedy."

Hochleichter said Monday the group is currently working on its third version of PocketFM, which it hopes to complete by the middle of next year. As with previous versions, the technology is decidedly low key, with a \$40 Raspberry Pi computer at the heart of the device.

"We're not a hardware company that's got \$100,000 to develop new

technology," Hochleichter said.

The next version will be slightly more powerful and boast a new security feature that allows users to remotely switch off the device by text message to prevent it being traced.

With the war in Syria running for almost five years, the third version is almost certain to see use. "I wish, but I would be very naive if I would believe, that the conflict would be over next year," said Abdulhaq (via Tibor Gaal, Hungary, Dec 25, dxldyg via DXLD)

There has already been quite some coverage of these FM transmitters in German media, as proudly listed at <http://www.mict-international.org/press/>

Apparently this project is widely considered hip and cool. I would raise the question, too, if these hipsters are perhaps just a bit naïve in their belief in "the Syrian media revolution" (Kai Ludwig, Germany, Dec 26, ibid.)

** TAIWAN. 7200, RTI, 1318, Dec 25. They were very sneaky today and did not sign off at 1300 as they normally do; CNR1 jamming did sign off leaving RTI in Chinese with good reception. At first thought it was CNR1 staying on late, as sometimes happens, but checked // 6125 and found was not a match; RTI mentioning "Taiwan" many times. Rare to clearly hear RTI in Chinese with no jamming! (Ron Howard, Asilomar State Beach, CA, EtÛn E1, antenna: 100' long wire, dxldyg via DX LISTENING DIGEST)

** TAIWAN [and non]. 9519.978, CHINA, as usual the odd frequency Nei Menggu stn, PBS Chinese and nearby Taiwanese Number station in 0500-0530 UT slot too:

9521.987, TWN, Chinese random numbers "XingXing guangbo diantai 4" - according Aoki Nagoya list - from Kuanyin, fair S=6 signal at 0512 UT on Dec 30 (Wolfgang B, schel, logs in 0430-0530 UT Dec 30 in Japan, remote SDR units, dxldyg via DX LISTENING DIGEST)

Hi Wolfy, Dec 30 on 7502 noted StarStar BS (XingXing BS) from 1316 to 1328*. Recently has been heard here daily at *1200 & *1300, with their half hour of numbers in Chinese (Ron Howard, California, ibid.)

9634.916 TWN SOH Chinese, poor S=4 level on threshold, next to odd frequency of Vietnam, an heterodyne producing combined at 9635.795 VTN VOV-1 domestic program.

9749.975 CHN The other PBS Nei Menggu in Mongolian language, S=6 fair signal progr at 0525 UT.

9849.956 UNIDs TWN SOH odd, and another stn on even 9850 kHz.
9930.227 TWN SOH tiny threshold level at 0527 UT.
9970.118 TWN SOH program

and to mention a much lot of CHINA, CRI, various CNR and Chinese minority language services on 31 meterband on this time slot heard locally on various remote Japan SDRs (Wolfgang B. Schel, logs in 0430-0530 UT Dec 30 in Japan, remote SDR units, dxldyg via DX LISTENING DIGEST)

** TAJIKISTAN. 4764.99, Tajik Radio, 1739, fair with talk by lang man, local music, low modulation (David Sharp, NSW, Dec 23, Sent from David Sharp's iPhone, DX LISTENING DIGEST)

** TAJIKISTAN [and non]. CHINA vs TAJIKISTAN, CNR-2 vs Voice of Tajik on 7245 kHz, December 21
1300-1400 on 7245 BEI 150 kW / non-dir to EaAs Chinese CNR-2
1300-1400 on 7245 DB 100 kW / non-dir to CeAs English Voice of Tajik
<http://swldxbulgaria.blogspot.bg/2015/12/cnr-2-vs-voice-of-tajik-on-7245-khz.html>
(DX RE MIX NEWS #932 from Georgi Bancov and Ivo Ivanov, Dec 28, 2015, via DXLD)

** THAILAND. (Exceptional signal and modulation) 9390, 12/24 2004-2046 R. Thailand, Udon Thani, in German. YL talks; program dedicated to Xmas period; many short and variety Christmas songs; 2015 IS, ID, s/off; 2030 IS, ID, English; HSK9, R. Thailand, World Service; 2045 IS, ID, Thai language; R. Thailand presents today an exceptional signal and modulation in my location, 45544 (DXer JosÉ Ronaldo Xavier (JRX), Cabedelo - Brazil, Degen DE1103 / Tecsun S-2000, Portable Telescopic antenna, Hard-Core-DX mailing list via DXLD)

** TIBET. 6050, Xizang PBS (Lhasa-Baiding) 1502-1525 22, 24 Dec. Rare to hear XPBS Chinese service here with any strength--//s 4820/5935 are morning regulars.

6110, Xizang PBS (Lhasa-Baiding) 0022-0100+ 21 Dec. Very pleased to hear XPBS' Tibetan service while watching the sun set. // 4905, 4920, 6025, 6130 with 6110 by far the best.

1440-1500+ 21 Dec. Much better signals from all (except unheard 6130)-4905 after the ute closes, 4920 under AIR, 6200 under VOJ--but beating them the next morning (Dan Sheedy, Moonlight Beach, CA, E5/6m X wire, DX LISTENING DIGEST)

** TIBET [non]. TAJIKISTAN / CHINA --- 2300-2307:30 UT 7597 kHz
Dushanbe 100 kW 131 deg to CeAS Tibetan, and CNR1 jammer on 7595 kHz, S=9+25dB in Japan remote SDR unit.

VoT went to 7603 kHz at 2307:30 UT at S=9+5dB signal strength, CHN1 jammer left 7595 kHz jamming channel about a minute later in favour of 7605 kHz, still S=9+25dB. \\ CNR1 program on 7230 7275 7290 and 7345 kHz in 41mb.

TAJIKISTAN / CHINA VoTibet OFF air on 7603 kHz at 2328:50 UT, CNR1 jamming on 7605 kHz lasted till 2330 UT wb (Wolfgang B,schel, Dec 29, dxldyg via DX LISTENING DIGEST)

** TURKEY. Wobbly signal of Voice of Turkey on December 23, transmitter on/off, on/off
1200-1225 7245 EMR 250 kW / 290 deg SEEu Bulgarian, and finally off at 1215
1230-1325 17755 EMR 500 kW / 310 deg WeEu German, no signal of VOT till 1245
1330-1425 12035 EMR 500 kW / 310 deg WeEu English as scheduled
B15,good signal
<http://swldxbulgaria.blogspot.bg/2015/12/wobbly-signal-of-voice-of-turkey-on.html>
(DX RE MIX NEWS #932 from Georgi Bancov and Ivo Ivanov, Dec 28, 2015, via DXLD)

** U K [non]. 9915, Dec 24 at 2215, BBCWS is amid a FONLAC replay (Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols), only poor reception, presumably ASCENSION extended past registered 2200* closing. I had missed most of the original this morning via KUCO, but find that American Public Media is repeating it on webcast from 2300 UT which I do listen to, in \$tereo to boot.

Altho it is really a religious service, I like to listen for the ambiance, and the Carols more than the Lessons, not to mention the Tradition of it all. And I love organ music, even if it is sacred, which so much of it is. The rhetoric remains unconvincing. Some public radio stations will replay this individually on Xmas day. Here's an exhaustive 48-page pdf program:
<http://www.kings.cam.ac.uk/files/services/festival-nine-lessons-2015.pdf>
including instruxions to the congregation in situ, such as: ``Please wait until the Choir has finished singing before turning the page as quietly as possible``.

``F09LAC`` might be more accurate, but don't want to confuse it with a French Polynesian amateur (Glenn Hauser, OK, DX LISTENING DIGEST)

** U S A. News from ARRL Dec 16 says: ``Brian Justin, WA1ZMS, will again put his 600 meter Experimental Station WG2XFQ on the air for a Christmas Eve commemorative transmission. WG2XFQ will transmit on 486 kHz from Forest, Virginia, to mark the 109th anniversary of Reginald Fessenden's first audio transmission. Historic accounts say Fessenden played the violin ó or a recording ó and read a brief Bible verse.

It's been reported that other radio experimenters and shipboard operators who heard Fessenden's broadcast were astounded.

Justin will conduct a run-up to this year's event starting at around mid-day Eastern Time on December 23. The unofficial Christmas event will begin on December 24 at 0001 UT (the evening of December 23 in US time zones) and will continue for at least 24 hours. Justin said he plans to repeat the commemorative transmissions on New Year's Eve and on New Year's Day.''

So I'm listening for it on 486 kHz, UT Dec 24 between 0516 and 0552 UT checking and rechecking as I am also drawing a blank on Bata 5005 --- not even a JBA carrier on 486. It's supposed to be in AM mode. I wonder how much power he's running? Also seems strange he would do this on UT Dec 24 instead of UT Dec 25, i.e. the real Xmas eve, North American time. Just in case, I also check early UT Dec 25: nothing on 486 via NRD-545 or R-75. Well, there's always next week. Did anyone hear it, and how far away? (Glenn Hauser, OK, DX LISTENING DIGEST)

** U S A. 15580, Dec 25 at 2107, good signal during the only hour per week when it's worth it for VOA to be running 15580 in English from Greenville site, i.e. 'Music Time in Africa' --- Xmas song in Portuguese, outtroed by hyper-hostess Heather Maxwell as ''Natal'' from Cabo Verde. Next: ''O Holy Night'' from Benin, and to follow more carols from DRC, Ghana, Togo, but later in hour straying to Jamaica, Cubamerica. At 2159 closing, Heather still gives several times but never this one, Fridays at 2100+, unknown to her.

15740, Dec 26 at 1925, steady S9 open carrier, no doubt Greenville warming up for switch to modulating 15730 in French from 1930, while VATICAN site is in 15730 use 1830-1930, violating Separation of Church and State; after an hour from NC, another semihour in French is tacked on 15730, Sundays only via Botswana at 2030-2100 (and Saturdays same in Hausa) (Glenn Hauser, OK, DX LISTENING DIGEST)

** U S A [and non]. VOA Radiogram, 26-27 Dec 2015 --- Holidays notwithstanding, VOA Radiogram will be on the air this weekend. The all-MFSK32 show will include stories about radio broadcasting to Cuba, as well as within Afghanistan and Syria. Details:

<http://voaradiogram.net/post/135852521787/voa-radiogram-26-27-december-2015-broadcasting>

VOA Radiogram transmission schedule (all days and times UT):

Sat 0930-1000 5865 (gray line to Europe possible this time of year)

Sat 1600-1630 17580 kHz

Sun 0230-0300 5745 kHz

Sun 1930-2000 15670 kHz

All via the Edward R. Murrow transmitting station in North Carolina.

The Mighty KBC will conduct another experiment in creative co-channel broadcasting: It's weekly MFSK32 will be Sunday at 0158 UT on 7395 kHz (via Germany), with the Radio Romania International interval signal also on 7395 for its French service starting at 0200. Generally the MFSK32 decodes well despite the very audible RRI. Decode the MFSK32 text and images with Fldigi from w1hkj.com, or your favorite software (Kim Elliott, Dec 25, dxldyg via DX LISTENING DIGEST)

** U S A. WORLD OF RADIO 1805 monitoring: confirmed second SW broadcast, Thu Dec 24 at 2100 on WRMI 7570, good at S9+25. Also confirmed third at 0200 UT Fri Dec 25 on WBCQ 9330-CUSB, fair. Next:
Fri 2130 WRMI 15770 to NE
Fri 2130.6 WRMI 7570 to NW
Sat 0730 HLR 7265-CUSB to SW
Sat 1530 HLR 7265-CUSB to SW
Sat 2030v WA0RCR 1860-AM ND?
Sun 0415v WA0RCR 1860-AM ND?
Sun 0900 WRMI 5850 to NW
Mon 0400v WBCQ 5110v-CUSB Area 51 to WSW
Mon 0430 WRMI 9955 to SSE
Tue 1200 WRMI 9955 to SSE
Wed 1415.5 WRMI 9955 to SSE
Wed 2200 WBCQ 7490v to WSW
(Glenn Hauser, OK, DX LISTENING DIGEST)

** U S A [non]. SECRETLAND [BULGARIA], SPL Secretbrod relay IRRS various programs on December 25:
1900-2000 7290 SCB 100 kW / 306 deg to WeEu English Fri, instead R. City. And surprisingly
1939-1959 UT IRRS relay Glenn Hauser's World of Radio #1805!
<http://swldxbulgaria.blogspot.bg/2015/12/spl-secretbrod-relay-irrs-various.html>
-- 73! (Ivo Ivanov, B'lgariya, dxldyg via WORLD OF RADIO 1806, DXLD)
Would it recur Fri Jan 1 or any other day??? (gh, DXLD)

** U S A [and non]. WORLD OF RADIO 1805 monitoring: confirmed Friday Dec 25 at 2130 on WRMI 15770, barely audible, and almost faded out by 2200; from 2130.6 on WRMI 7570, good and completed to finish. Next:
Sat 0730 HLR 7265-CUSB to SW
Sat 1530 HLR 7265-CUSB to SW
Sat 2030v WA0RCR 1860-AM ND?
Sun 0415v WA0RCR 1860-AM ND?
Sun 0900 WRMI 5850 to NW
Mon 0400v WBCQ 5110v-CUSB Area 51 to WSW
Mon 0430 WRMI 9955 to SSE
Tue 1200 WRMI 9955 to SSE
Wed 1415.5 WRMI 9955 to SSE

Wed 2200 WBCQ 7490v to WSW

WORLD OF RADIO 1805 monitoring: despite storm noise, confirmed at Equatorial Guinea item circa 0434 UT Sunday Dec 27 on WA9RCR, 1860-AM, so started somewhat later than nominal 0415. Next:

Sun 0900 WRMI 5850 to NW [please confirm, ye who are awake]

Mon 0400v WBCQ 5110v-CUSB Area 51 to WSW

Mon 0430 WRMI 9955 to SSE

Tue 1200 WRMI 9955 to SSE

Wed 1415.5 WRMI 9955 to SSE

Wed 2200 WBCQ 7490v to WSW

WORLD OF RADIO 1805 monitoring: confirmed UT Monday Dec 28 starting at 0402 on Area 51 via WBCQ 5109.7-CUSB; Jean Shepherd ran a bit over with his hilarious stream-of-consciousness. 1805 also confirmed at 0430 on WRMI webcast of 9955, unchecked on SW. Next:

Tue 1200 WRMI 9955 to SSE

Wed 1415.5 WRMI 9955 to SSE

Wed 2200 WBCQ 7490v to WSW

WORLD OF RADIO 1805 monitoring: confirmed at 1433 Dec 30, the Wed 1415.5 broadcast on WRMI 9955, no jamming. Also confirmed Wed Dec 30 at 2200, on WBCQ 7490.00, right on time and right on frequency.

WORLD OF RADIO 1806: ready for first broadcasts Thu Dec 31:

Thu 1230 WRMI 9955 to SSE

Thu 2100 WRMI 7570 to NW

Fri 0200 WBCQ 9330-CUSB to WSW

Fri 2130 WRMI 15770 to NE

Fri 2130.6 WRMI 7570 to NW

Sat 0730 HLR 7265-CUSB to SW

Sat 1530 HLR 7265-CUSB to SW

Sat 2030v WA0RCR 1860-AM ND?

Sun 0415v WA0RCR 1860-AM ND?

Sun 0900 WRMI 5850 to NW

Mon 0400v WBCQ 5110v-CUSB Area 51 to WSW

Mon 0430 WRMI 9955 to SSE

Tue 1200 WRMI 9955 to SSE

Wed 1415.5 WRMI 9955 to SSE

Wed 2200 WBCQ 7490v to WSW

(Glenn Hauser, OK, DX LISTENING DIGEST)

** U S A. WRMI Okeechobee tx#09 relay UNID music program December 25: 0700-1000 on 11580 YFR 100 kW / 044 deg to WeEu Music, instead of TOM <http://swldxbulgaria.blogspot.bg/2015/12/wrmi-okeechobee-tx09-relay-unid-music.html>

-- 73! (Ivo Ivanov, B'lgariya, dxldyg via DX LISTENING DIGEST)

Fill music loop? (gh, DXLD)

7730, Sunday Dec 27 at 0713, WRMI-13 is open carrier/dead air with some hum at S9+30, while 5850, WRMI-12, is OK with a gospel huxter, not // 9395 with excerpts from Handel's ``Messiah``. Before 0700 all three are with Son Power Radio (a.k.a. TruNews), but on Mondays only (not Sundays), 7730 is scheduled for `In Christ We Live` for another hour until 08; while on Sundays only, 5850 is extended, changing at 0700 to `Worship in your Home` for two hours (and then, WORLD OF RADIO at 0900 ñ did anyone hear it?), while 9395, WRMI-6 is 24/7 TruNews.

I *think* #6 is the old Wilkinson transmitter, the original WRMI moved in from Hialeah, ex-Radio Clarin, quite an historic unit. BTW, WRMI-1 is shown on the grid also on 7730, except no entries. One other transmitter with no usage at all currently is #5 (Glenn Hauser, OK, DX LISTENING DIGEST)

TruNews via WRMI Okeechobee on three frequencies in parallel, Dec 28
0600-0700 5850 YFR 100 kW / 315 deg to WNAW tx#12, QRM STANAG 5855
0600-0700 7730 YFR 100 kW / 285 deg to WNAW tx#13
0600-0700 9395 YFR 100 kW / 355 deg to ENAW tx#06, QRM Denge Kurdistan 9400
<http://swldxbulgaria.blogspot.bg/2015/12/trunews-via-wrmi-okeechobee-on-three.html>
73! (Ivo Ivanov, B'lgariya, dxldyg via DXLD)

But not for long. 7730 & 5850 turned over to BS Jan 1. The 5855 QRM is Cuban spy numbers, not STANAG (Glenn Hauser, DXLD)

More frequencies of WRMI Okeechobee registered on Dec 28
0800-2400 on 5015 YFR 100 kW / 285 deg to WNAW various tx#13
0100-0500 on 5950 YFR 100 kW / 181 deg to Cuba various tx#14
0100-0300 on 5985 YFR 100 kW / 222 deg to MEXI various tx#02
1500-2200 on 9955 YFR 100 kW / 160 deg to CeAm various tx#10
0300-0500 on 11920 YFR 100 kW / 160 deg to CeAm various tx#04
<http://swldxbulgaria.blogspot.bg/2015/12/more-frequencies-of-wrmi-okeechobee.html>
73! (Ivo Ivanov, B'lgariya, dxldyg via WORLD OF RADIO 1806, DXLD)

All those are for more Brother Scare, but the hours for 5015 are wrong: 2300-1500 UT; and it had trouble getting started (gh, DXLD)

7570, Monday Dec 28 at 2101, WRMI is once again re-re-running the RMRC/EDXC Special, stuck here instead of original program during this hour, `La Rosa de Tokio`. I suppose it also appeared Dec 21 at this time, as it did on Dec 14 after intentional pre-emption Dec 7 (Glenn Hauser, OK, DX LISTENING DIGEST)

Changes of WRMI Okeechobee, effective 0000 UTC Jan.1, 2016 (updated):
<http://swldxbulgaria.blogspot.bg/2015/12/more-frequencies-of-wrmi-okeechobee.html>

0100-0300 5985 100 kW / 222 deg to MEXI Brother Stair tx#02
0100-0500 5950 100 kW / 181 deg to Cuba Brother Stair tx#14
0100-0700 5850 100 kW / 315 deg to WNAm Brother Stair tx#12,x TruNews
0100-0700 7730 100 kW / 285 deg to WNAm Brother Stair tx#13,x TruNews
0300-0500 11920 100 kW / 160 deg to CeAm Brother Stair tx#04
1500-2200 9955 100 kW / 160 deg to CeAm Brother Stair tx#10
2300-1500 5015 100 kW / 285 deg to WNAm Brother Stair tx#05
(Ivo Ivanov, dxldyg via WORLD OF RADIO 1806, DXLD)

Updated winter B15 of WRMI Okeechobee effective from January 1, 2016:
<http://swldxbulgaria.blogspot.bg/2015/12/updated-winter-b15-of-wrmi-okeechobee.html>

Updated B-15 schedule of Brother Stair from Jan.1
<http://swldxbulgaria.blogspot.bg/2015/12/updated-b-15-schedule-of-brother-stair.html>
-- 73! (Ivo Ivanov, QTH: Sofia, Bulgaria, dxldyg via DXLD)

** U S A. 7489.90, Dec 26 at 0127, 'Allan Weiner Worldwide' starts some WBCQ ``operational notes`` --- 5110 will be on until midnight (ET) tonight -0500* UT, with 'Tom Cole Theater' at 10 pm = 0300 UT. No Grog show this week. Fred Flintstone has three new shows (so I guess his cancer treatment is going well, presumably UT Sats 00-01 on 7490); David Medrick has a show ``I Love Zoey Deschanel``, whoever that is, time not given. Allan mentions his girlfriend in DeLand of Fla, Pam, cooked a great meal for them. Then J. P. Ferraro on the phone.

Retune at 0210 finds some more program previews: next Friday evening, Jan 1 at 7-10 pm ET [00-03 UT Sat], a live New Year show with Ray of Radio Free Dishnuts, ``I guess on 5110``; At 0213, when I am listening to the delayed feed on 5109.7-CUSB, Allan reads a bit from Free Radio Weekly including a log of Bangalore Poacher by gh (Glenn Hauser, OK, DX LISTENING DIGEST)

** U S A. AMATEUR ROUNDTABLE: PREPARING FOR THE STORM, KITS, AND HOMEBREW 40 M TRANSCEIVER --- W5KUB.COM watched in over 150 countries
Amateur Radio Roundtable

On this week's Amateur Radio Roundtable show (December 29th) Emmett Hohensee, W0QH, the chief engineer of Radiowavz, will give will discuss how to prepare for a storm and what to do after severe weather. Joe Eisenberg, K0NEB, will be back with us to show another kit. Tom, W5KUB, will also show the progress of his homebrew 40 meter transceiver on this show and future shows. This is a very easy homebrew project and should cost less than \$40. After these segments, we will open up the show to phone calls and talk to anyone who would like to call in. Lets hear about your ham radio Christmas presents.

Be sure to send your FCC related questions to Riley Hollingsworth, K4ZDH, to AskRiley@w5kub.com. Riley retired from the FCC's Compliance and Information Bureau as Legal Adviser for Enforcement Program. He will be answering your questions every few weeks on our "Ask Riley" segment

Remember our show is also on international shortwave radio station WBCQ out of Monticello, ME on 5110 Khz, Please send a signal report to tom@w5kub.com.

Amateur Radio Roundtable is a live weekly amateur radio webcast, held every Tuesday night at 8 PM CT (0200 UT Wednesday) at W5KUB.com. The show covers a wide range of topics for ham radio operators and electronic hobbyists; including balloon launches, satellite, go-kits, emergency communications, SDR, digital modes, DXing, home brewing, hamfest updates, and more. We also want to grow our shortwave listener base and will be including programs that interest those listeners as well. Viewers will have the opportunity to ask questions via the chat room or telephone.

We need your help. If you use Twitter, please send out a tweet 15 minutes before the show or retweet our announcement. I suggest something like "live #hamradio show starts in 15 mins on w5kub.com 8 PM CT". This should help increase our viewer base.

Towards the end of each show, we provide a link and viewers who have a camera, microphone, and a Google+ account, can join the show. Your video and audio will be on the webcast. This part of the show is very informal and up to 10 people can join. We talk about anything the viewers want to discuss.

We would like to share pictures of your ham shack on the webcast. Send a picture of your ham shack with a description and we will feature your shack pictures on the show. In fact, if you give us your permission, your shack could be used as the background of that week's webcast!

If you have a specific subject idea for a future show, send an email to tom@w5kub.com Forward this message to a Friend will allow you to share this message with your friends. If you missed last week's show, you can watch it here on our Youtube channel. Our shows are recorded and placed on YouTube's W5KUB channel the following day. Join us for fun and interesting discussions! (Tom Medlin, W5KUB, Dec 28, DX LISTENING DIGEST) Posted by: (Glenn Hauser, in advance of broadcast, on the dxldyg; via DXLD)

** U S A. Dave Franz (WWRB) is trying to sign up more clients and playing ABBA music. I think he only has 3 or 4 including Brother

Stair. I had deleted his station off my pre-sets a while back (Lou KF4RCA Johnson, GA, Dec 24, DX LISTENING DIGEST)

3215, Dec 25 at 0158 on the BST-1 caradio, I land a memory on Dave Frantz with a seemingly live WWRB QSY announcement, saying we should retune to 3195, repeated half a dozen times, but one time he says 3185, which is the correct next frequency. As soon as he's off, WWCR comes on 3215 with steel drum IS.

I don't think WWRB has been using 3195 at all in recent seasons [CORRECTED BELOW], but FCC B-15 registers it at 01-04, and 3215 at 21-02. I don't think 3215 really starts that early, either. 3185 is also available 00-13 but really starts at 02.

WWCR is also authorized for 3195 at 06-10 and 22-01 but not using it at all. I say again, why mess with this complexity of exchanging frequencies (also shifting with DST), instead of one staying on 3215 and the other staying on 3185?

3185, Dec 26 at 0110, WWRB is already on with BS, while last night did not move from 3215 to 3185 until 0158. Nothing on 3215 yet tonight, as WWCR is not so flexible and will not come up until 0158.

3215, UT Sunday Dec 27 at 0154, a couple guys offering anti-Hillary material, 0157 wrapping up reminding us that from next Saturday they will be on ``shortwave 1``, 3215, at 7:30-9 pm Eastern [0030-0200 UT Sunday], ``American Prophecy`` with a 330-area code phone number. Well, they are already on that time and frequency this week!

This has been WWRB, as Dave Frantz then comes on at 0158, apparently live, after the 'Prophecy News Hour' with QSY announcement to ``secondary frequency`` 3195 mentioned multiple times, where he will be reading reception reports. He says they are driving two antennas, to northeast and south, with 15,000 (? 50,000?) watts. Off at 0200 and WWCR comes on 3215 a few seconds later. It seems the two rivals are well-co^ordinated about this, only by clock or by monitoring?

3195, WWRB comes up in about half a minute after 0200, with Dave again; now sounds like he says power is 110,000 watts. He talks on and on past 0215 about: WWRB as only station to use aircraft to align antennas; other US stations are just guessing at their rhombic coverage. His main business is aviation, including pipeline tracing, tax-mapping, and when he was in Key West found the WWRB signal on south beam to be ``astoundingly strong``, thus also into Cuba, and also has reports like that from Jamaica and Costa Rica (50 over 9).

Measuring field strength in all direxions, he has flown circles around the site testing at low power, at a distance of 10 miles, first at 500

feet, then up to higher flight levels (so he has a 3-D picture of the signal patterns). A SW signal looks like an open clamshell. Look at the WWRB website for a photo gallery.

At 0205 he's pushing for customers to broadcast to Cuba, where they have no Bibles and no internet, but US AID gave away some shortwave radios. Then a rant against most ``Taj Mahal`` churches which are in growing debt and only interested in getting money from members, rather than evangelism, little more than vanity social clubs.

Based on what I heard tonight, my logs of last two nights were incorrect. I didn't have 3195 in my BST-1 caradio memories, so thought when 3215 was closing he really meant 3185, which I could hear, instead of 3195 to be next, which is certainly active. Tonight 3185 was already running before 0200 with Brother Scare, and sounded much weaker, tho the S-meter showed only about 5 dB less than 3195. Maybe it's the solid state modulator on SW-1 which makes the difference?

Altho the current date is auto-displayed at the top of the <http://www.wwrb.org> homepage, everything else is in dire need of updating, from 2011, 2012, etc. Better not to look at the program or transmitter schedules at all, lest you should believe some of the long-gone details (Glenn Hauser, OK, WORLD OF RADIO 1806, DX LISTENING DIGEST)

Did you happen to catch Dave Franz's rant 12/28 8 PM (ET) on 3215? Made a great lead-in to WWCN's program at 9 PM. In his rant he discusses wet dream wars, cannon fodder, Obamcare, politicians, lip service Christians, Bible believing Christians, and RV's. At times he's yelling much like Alex Jones, Michael Savage, and Mark Levin. Maybe he should go syndicated. There's always room for one more talk show host (Lou KF4RCA Johnson, Dec 29, WORLD OF RADIO 1806, DX LISTENING DIGEST)

3195, Dec 28 circa 0310, WWRB is still on here, with the Tullahoma TN preacher, but at 0352 recheck it's off (Glenn Hauser, OK, DX LISTENING DIGEST)

** U S A. 9930, Dec 24 at 2028, VG signal from WTWW-2 which is now on regularly, financial advice mentioning ``Financial Peace University``, which is a Dave Ramsey thing, but it doesn't sound like Dave; going into a break, ID for that show, but no name from the speaker. I guess Dave is off today for some reason.

WTWW website now shows Dave Ramsey ``live`` at 1-4 pm CT weekdays (19-22 UT). Seems he is all over the domestic radio dials already, so hardly needs SW. His station-finder is too specialized, but e.g. has seven outlets in OK including one right here in Enid. In every case,

``check with station for airtime``! Easy way out for him. It does seem his show appears all over the clock as well, as doesn't need to be live. I also have the impression he is really, really, into selling stuff to listeners; good advice! He's a UTK graduate, unlike me.

5085, Dec 25 at 0738 check, Art Bell is back! But I'm sure only as a holiday rerun instead of Heather, topic marijuana legalization in Colorado, 'Midnight [sic] in the Desert' via WTWW. Maybe another AB revival next night.

5085, Dec 26 at 0610, Art Bell is still back on another holiday rerun from before he resigned from 'Midnight[sic] in the Desert', via WTWW-2, but still gone from 6070, CFRX. Who will be doing the next show, UT Tuesday Dec 29 from 0500+?

9475, Dec 26 at 1937, as I tune in WTWW-1, it's off; then cuts on during a ham show, off again by 1938.

9930, WTWW-2 is on at 1938 Dec 26, still with Xmas music. At 0051 check Dec 27, 9930 is still on with Ted selling a radio, starting to fade down, not yet on night frequency 5085.

5830 & 9475, Dec 29 at 0236, both WTWW-1 frequencies are off; but 5085 WTWW-2 is on, still playing Xmas music; and 12105 WTWW-3 is S9 with PPPP in English, probably sporadic-E boost.

5085, Dec 30 at 0703, 'Midnight[sic] in the Desert' is already resuming after a [news?] break, Heather again, subject nuclear storage sites, via WTWW-2 (Glenn Hauser, OK, DX LISTENING DIGEST)

** U S A. 9265, Dec 24 at 2034, WINB carrier on already at S9, before 2045 sign-on, and not wobbling, so maybe it's already warmed up from even earlier; however at 2050 during hymn, in SSB reception mode there is some wobble on carrier, while in AM mode on the NRD-545 it sounds like fast flutter.

9265, Dec 25 at 1505, S9 open carrier, rather than WMLK, much more likely WINB on early for Xmas rather than *2045 weekdays; 1557-1601+ still dead air, so when will they start? Online sked <http://winb.com/schedule.htm> is now effective Dec 20, but nothing about extended Xmas Friday programming. AND --- after having achieved correct UT/ET conversion of 5 hours in the last revision, now they are back to incorrect 4-hours as if EDT conversion!

WRTH 2016 on page 504 still lists Hans Johnson as sales/frequency manager. Founder of Jihad-DX, later Cumbre DX, but long inactive as a DXer, Hans surely knows how to convert times correctly, so who is responsible for this atrocity? (Glenn Hauser, OK, DX LISTENING DIGEST)

** U S A. 7504.75, Dec 27 at 0152, WRNO is already on with distorted gospel music.

7504.8, Dec 29 at 0229, at tune-in, hear a bit of a Dutch ID for WRNO --- or was it Low German, back into Englisch; whatever, quite a surprise. Have not run across any DW news relays in English lately on WRNO (Glenn Hauser, OK, DX LISTENING DIGEST)

** U S A. World Wide Christian Radio WWCR-1 with transmitter's problem on December 21
1345 & 1445 15825 WCR 100 kW / 046 deg to WeEu English, self-QRMing and squeals
<http://swldxbulgaria.blogspot.bg/2015/12/world-wide-christian-radio-wwcr-1-with.html>
(DX RE MIX NEWS #932 from Georgi Bancov and Ivo Ivanov, Dec 28, 2015, via DXLD)

Do you ever catch Dr. Wong on WWCR. Caught his passionate dissertation against vaccines: "Why the hell would you ever let them put that shit in you?" (Lou KF4RCA Johnson, GA, Dec 24, DX LISTENING DIGEST) For immunization, duh. When and where? (gh)

** U S A. Updated B-15 schedule of US private religious stations can be found here
<http://swldxbulgaria.blogspot.bg/2015/12/additional-transmission-in-english-of.html>
-- 73! (Ivo Ivanov, B'lgariya, dxldyg via DX LISTENING DIGEST)

** U S A. [Re 15-51, presidential debate on big MW stations]: As to the debate, yes, iHeart was the radio partner (Raymie Humbert, Phúnix AZ, Dec 24, WTFDA Forum via DXLD)

** U S A. 700, Dec 30 at 1923 UT on groundwave, Spanish religion, so KHSE Wylie TX. so far heard only in Spanish despite broadening format to ETHnic (Glenn Hauser, OK, DX LISTENING DIGEST)

** U S A. 830, Dec 26 at 0158 UT, ``La Fabulosa 8-30`` ID goes by, so WFNO Norco LA retains such a monicker. I am also trying to split off the het I'm getting on 830.5 or so without success (Glenn Hauser, OK, DX LISTENING DIGEST)

** U S A. KOVO-960 oddity --- Does anyone know if KOVO has different day and night sites? In reviewing my Border Inn recordings [NV/UT], I've noticed an odd echo on this station after sunset during the BYU FB game on Friday night Sept 25th. It's as if they left the day rig on for the FB game but forgot to prevent the night rig from coming on at the usual time. Is that possible? (Tim Hall, CA, Dec 30, ABDX via

DXLD)

I don't know if they have different sites or not, but I have heard similar issues with sports broadcasts. If a station's mix minus feed back to the event is not properly configured, some of the event audio can make its way back to the origination point, somewhat delayed. The amount of delay depends on a number of variables, but it can be anywhere from a fraction of a second up to several seconds. 73, (Mike Gorniak, NM7X, ibid.)

Just one site. FCCdata.org is a good way to find these things - plug in KOVO and you'll see immediately that it has just one tower for day and night use, 5 kW day, 140 watts at night, non-directional. I agree that the echo could easily have been a problem with the audio feed of the game reaching the station (Scott Fybush, NY, ibid.)

Thanks guys! Somehow I forgot they were ND. The echo started right around FCC sunset time, so it got me wondering if such a thing has ever happened. I'm going loopy trying to resolve my UNIDs from the Border Inn HS FB Beverage DXpedition as I'm typing up my big report. I just wasted an hour trying to figure out a game on 1240 kHz off the NNE wire that sounded like the Golden Jenkins(?)? vs. the _____mint Gophers? Probably in CDT since there were only about 5 minutes left in the game just after 0200 UT. "Golden" was leading 10-6. On this game, I was the one who ended up punting! 73 (Tim Hall, ibid.)

Hi Tim, I was thinking about this today and stumbled across this letter in KOVO's FCC file:
http://licensing.fcc.gov/cgi-bin/prod/cdb/forms/prod/getimportletter_exh.cgi?import_letter_id=59220

What's really strange to me is that they are asking the FCC to put their application on hold while they sort out some issues to amend it. So, it appears that they are licensed presently with a 2 tower DA Night pattern. I'm now starting to wonder if, in fact, you DID hear 2 sites on at the same time! The locations of the licensed and proposed transmitter sites are definitely different. Here's the main link:
<https://transition.fcc.gov/fcc-bin/amq?call=KOVO>

If you click on each entry you can access more info, including the correspondence file. It's a nice little mystery. I have heard it happen with other stations before. 73, (Mike Gorniak, NM7X, ibid.)

** U S A. 980, TEXAS, KQUE, Rosenberg-Richmond. 1059 December 30, 2015. End of Mexi-tune (Christian theme, presumed) into very long canned ID string of many affiliate stations by male in Spanish -- including "KQUE 980 AM Rosenberg" and back to Christian Mexi-tunes. This one can easily fool one into thinking it's a real Mexican (Terry

L. Krueger, All times/dates GMT. NRD-535, IC-R75, roof dipole, active loop, Clearwater, FL, DX LISTENING DIGEST)

** U S A. 1050, Dec 24 at 0548 UT, KTBL program promo and ad string; on the east-west ALA-330S, I'm easily hearing this rather than XEG, which is often inexplicably weak for a 100/100 kW ND station as in WRTN 2015, Cant' and IRCA Log (however, NRC Pattern Book shows a smaller circle at night, implying reduced power, but still plenty).

KTBL is only 1/1 kW U3 from Los Ranchos (Albuquerque) NM, and often owns 1050 at night, altho there are about 50 US stations on the frequency, most of them with minuscule power at night in deference to XEG and CHUM Toronto (which we have never heard as it also protects XEG). KTBL day and night pattern is broad, centered slightly east of north, not to the south, but no null toward us (Glenn Hauser, OK, DX LISTENING DIGEST)

** U S A. 1100, Dec 25 at 0252 UT, Colorado ads way over WTAM, making fast SAH, Xmas music; KNZZ ID for sure at 0334 UT, Grand Junxion obviously cheating again with 50 kW ND at night. It does fade from time to time on caradio, but not enough to clear the channel for Cleveland (Glenn Hauser, OK, DX LISTENING DIGEST)

** U S A. 1110, Dec 25 around 0230 UT, Mannheim Steamroller's 'American Christmas', annual special carried on many US MW stations, this one being KFAB Omaha, at times overridden on caradio by IBOC from 1120 KMOX peaking at 1107 kHz. Maybe there will be more airings Xmas day/night? Pushing their new recordings, of course. I enjoy their music and almost went to one of the two MS roadtour groups' appearance recently at the new Enid Event Center, but decided the price was too high, and I'd have to bring my enclosing-the-ears headphones to deaden the dBs, thus also killing the hi frequencies, like I had to for 'Tops in Blue' by the USAF (free). No other audio control by audience in an arena! (Glenn Hauser, OK, DX LISTENING DIGEST)

** U S A. 1130, Dec 26 at 1354 UT, open carrier/dead air from KLEY Wellington KS on groundwave.

1130, Dec 28 at 0323 UT, open carrier/dead air from NE/SW, surely my semi-local KLEY Wellington KS, supposed to be 250 watts daytime and PSRA, ONE WATT at night. Ditto at 0634 UT, but by 1343 UT it's recovered (Glenn Hauser, OK, DX LISTENING DIGEST)

** U S A. 1220, Dec 24 at 0550 UT, WSLM weather on 'My Country 12-20' --- the slogan listed in NRC AM Log, tho I wasn't sure about the 'My'. Seems this Salem IN station is still/again cheating, occupying 1220 much more at night than many others in eastern US, supposedly 82 watts at night, 5000 watts day, with tight patterns slightly clockwise

from east/west, tnx to Cleveland 1220 running a deep null toward the west, presumably to protect XEB to its southwest (Glenn Hauser, OK, DX LISTENING DIGEST)

** U S A. 1280, Dec 29 circa 1900 UT, KSOK, Arkansas City KS is back on, having been missing 25 hours earlier. I don't think the Arkansas River is flooding this far up, but it certainly is by the time it gets to Arkansas State.

Pronunciation guide for non-natives:

Kansas the state: KAN-zuss

Arkansas the state: AR-kun-saw

Arkansas City, Kansas: ar-KAN-zuss SIT-ee (or just ark-SIT-ee)

Arkansas River, Colorado, Kansas, Oklahoma, Arkansas: AR-kun-saw

always (Glenn Hauser, OK, DX LISTENING DIGEST)

** U S A. 1330, Dec 26 at 0143 UT, ads for something in Vegas(?), so I perk up in case this is all the way from Nevada --- no, next ad is for Monahans, so KCKM must have been referring to Pecos (pay-kuss), next town down I-20 (and not Vega [VEE-gah] TX either, which is too far away, west of Amarillo) (Glenn Hauser, OK, DX LISTENING DIGEST)

** U S A. 1360, Dec 30 at 1926 UT, plugging AM-820, covering the state of Ohio, Catholic call-in from EWTN. I.e. the former WOSU disposed of by Ohio State, now WVSG with 6.5 kW in the daytime. But this 1360 is KPHN El Dorado KS, close enough for marginal groundwave but stronger than usual so some boost from skywave? Holding its own against the local KCRC spur/het from 1390 (Glenn Hauser, OK, DX LISTENING DIGEST)

** U S A. 1390, Dec 27 at 1354 UT I find that local KCRC Enid is off! No severe winter storm has hit us yet. An improvement over mere dead air they were broadcasting for hours a few nights ago, so what else can I get? Just after sunrise (if we could see it!), so some skywave still. NW/SE gets some C&W music, later at 1350 UT blues with YL singer and piano; NE/SW gets something talking. I have to turn on a VCR by 1355 UT in preparation for CBS Sunday Morning (which KWTW has shifted to KSBI due to continuous winter storm coverage on main channel), and the VCR radiates blocking noise on the NW/SE angle.

So I keep on the NE/SW station, can't pull any IDs but 1400 UT Fox ``News``, 1405 UT national ad with 800 number, 1406 UT into `Smart Living with Larry Ahrens` from BizTalk Radio. Says the show originates in Albuquerque. I do find that on the BizTalk pdf schedule grid (due for changes in January), for this hour on Sundays, via <http://affiliate.biztalkradio.com/Programming-Schedule> but the ``affiliate resources`` do not include any list of them! Proprietary info, I suppose. Unfortunately, neither BizTalk network, nor Ahrens show are among those referenced in the 2016 NRC AM Log.

Nothing specific about affiliates searching on his name; he's an alumnus of KKOB 770.

1390, KJPW, Waynesville MO, looks to be the very likely source, in fact called 'The Source' in NRC AM Log, affiliated with Fox news, but can't find an own website as it's insignificant among a sextet of co-stations at
<http://www.myozarksonline.com/2015/03/27/select-your-station-here/>

It's our 'next' 1390 station to the northeast. Unlike very direxional KCRC, KJPW is ND day and night, 5000/111 watts, PSRA 500, but now it's definitely Day. The two 1390s in Arkansas are both Spanish.

As for the music station on 1390, these two are most likely by proximity and listed format: KNCK, Concordia KS, OLD; KBEC, Waxahachie TX, C&W - Texas Classic Music. By 1625 UT check, KCRC is back on, shux (Glenn Hauser, OK, DX LISTENING DIGEST)

Glenn, I think KNCK 1390 is oldies or something similar, but not country. They don't stream so I can't confirm. Could you have had KBEC Waxahachie, TX? Both radio-locator and wikipedia list KNCK-AM as oldies, with wikipedia even listing a slogan "1390 Memories"
[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/KNCK_\(AM\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/KNCK_(AM))
(Paul B Walker, Jr, AR, dxldyg via DX LISTENING DIGEST)

** U S A. 1480, Dec 24 at 2059 UT, outro credits for Sherlock Holmes, with organ music, as from Mutual Broadcasting System, immediately ID ``The Big Talker, 14-80, KQAM, Wichita proud`` and into some network news, probably not Mutual, about tornados in the South. Sherlock must have been holiday substitute programming (Glenn Hauser, OK, DX LISTENING DIGEST)

** U S A. 1520, Dec 28 at 1346 UT, KOKC OKC talk with severe interference, often atop it, and almost zero-beat, from C&W music: must be KYND Cypress TX, and 1349 UT conveniently breaks for ID in American English, ``1520 KYND``.

This is one of the stations which had been relaying China Radio International, but no more, as discussed on WOR and DXLD (Glenn Hauser, OK, WORLD OF RADIO 1806, DX LISTENING DIGEST) See 1540 below

** U S A. Heard WCKY Cincinnati (1530) skipping in around noon here in Atlanta (about 600+ miles). Much of the east coast was in cloud cover that day. According to Wikipedia, tropoducting occurs to some extent at all frequencies (Lou KF4RCA Johnson, GA, Dec 24, DX LISTENING DIGEST)

Maybe, but much more likely, around winter Solstice at our latitude

the midday solar angle is so ``low noon`` that ionospheric D-layer daytime absorption is reduced, letting thru night-like signals off the E-layer; or even sporadic E can enhance MW signals, I think, as we are now at the minor winter peak (Glenn Hauser, DX LISTENING DIGEST)

** U S A. 1540.08, Dec 30 at 1310 UT, het upon dominant signal KXEL on the R-75. I measure it down to here, and on the DX-398 it's about two clix (80 Hz) above KXEL, furthermore looping NNW/SSE, just right for KGBC Galveston TX, and with South Asian music; 1316 UT YL in English welcomes us mentioning 106.1 --- so that clinches it, KGBC reported in RadioDiscussions to have replaced G&E/CRI relay with ``Hum Tum Radio`` // 106.1. WTFDA Database has no such 106.1 listing for TX, but this one is in the market:

K291CE // KLTN-HD3 106.1 SUGAR LAND TX 0.19 kW 29.4456 95.2855 Spanish KLTN is full-power on 102.9 in Houston, ``regional Mexican`` format. By 1318 UT, KEDA is gaining on 1540 (Glenn Hauser, OK, WORLD OF RADIO 1806, DX LISTENING DIGEST) See DXLD 15-51 about this

As for KYND, its pattern is supposed to be a circle tangent eastward, groundwave to interfere with the Lafayette LA station, not KOKC, which remains self-degraded at only 10 instead of 50 kW, since a tornado broke one of its towers last May; well, how long to replace it if they are ever going to?

Here's a LOT more about the CRI situation from Radio Discussions Houston board.

<http://www.radiodiscussions.com/showthread.php?691609-KYND-Cypress-Off-the-Air> b-turner is obviously someone in charge of KYND: (Glenn Hauser, DX LISTENING DIGEST)

Our programmer cancelled their programming. While we could have gone live at the studio, we wanted a more 21st century option. And certainly getting stuck in the mud at the tower site was a given but maybe not after a couple of dry days. We needed a couple of days and a piece of equipment to pull that off, so in lieu of airing silence or being stuck in the studio the whole time, we shut down until we got our ducks in a row. In fact, I met with our engineer yesterday (both of us visiting family and it just happened to be the same city, minutes away from each other), and I was able to pass of what he needed from me. I see the piece we needed came in and we're up.

From my understanding G&E Studios created most of the programming heard on the English version with a few from China Radio. When China decided to stop things, G&E had to cancel us and I understand all of the English language stations they were on throughout North America. Like usual, no matter the terms of a contract, when cancellation comes, it is always without warning, unexpected and not a win-win for any involved parties. In fact your client might not know until the

final moment as well. That is simply the nature of the business.

Finding a new qualified programmer sometimes feels like trying to win the lottery. You don't know them, how to find them and they don't know you, but when everything aligns, somehow you connect. Meanwhile you are painfully aware of the revenue loss (b-turner, Dec 21, radiodiscussions.com Houston via DXLD)

Yep, everything is changing. And I can see why. Cost for one thing, younger audience more adept to listening via network services rather than over the air, also. Portable devices these days aren't a traditional radio of course, they almost all have internet connectivity now. I wonder if the openings on SW will attract some new blood? I don't see the bands going to complete waste, nor do I ever see them being what they once were, just impossible with today's world, and I don't see the ham bands getting extended either, just not that crowded.

So is this re-evaluation of China's radio efforts due to the same thing that's going on everywhere, or does this have something to do with the news stories recently about Chinese Radio and their government propaganda machine? Bill have you heard anything about why the cancel of the programming? (Chris, KF5JMD, Dec 22, ibid.)

Allow me to try to explain a bit about the CRI deal: G&E Studios is an American company that had a client, China Radio International. G&E leased stations and placed programming on them. Some programming came from CRI but much originated from American hosts (using Los Angeles Air Talent) who did shows on subjects like technology, sports, financial and other subjects. G&E was hired to do this by CRI.

After 5 years, the funding for this was stopped resulting in G&E no longer having a client and a bunch of stations they leased now needing programming and a new paying client. I suppose the Chinese 'reevaluated' and dropped the ax. It is my understanding the English language version was stopped everywhere in every city G&E leased a station to carry the programming. This would not be a just Houston thing. I really enjoyed having G&E as a client, really nice people, understanding and very reasonable in their dealings, a truly rare find (b-turner, Dec 22, ibid.)

Possibly anything to do with this, I wonder? BTW: As I said before I liked the programming.

<http://www.billboard.com/articles/business/6752877/feds-radio-chinese-ownership>

``FEDS INVESTIGATE RADIO BROADCASTER OVER ALLEGED CHINESE OWNERSHIP
11/3/2015 by Associated Press

Federal regulators are investigating a U.S. radio broadcasting company that is reportedly majority-owned by a unit of a Chinese government broadcaster.

A spokesman for the Federal Communications Commission confirmed Tuesday that the agency will open a probe into G&E Studio Inc., a Los Angeles-based company reportedly owned by James Su, a naturalized U.S. citizen originally from Shanghai.

The company leases stations and air time, and broadcasts in more than 10 cities across the U.S., including Philadelphia, Washington, D.C. and San Francisco.``

This site's story about it makes it out to be a "Covert" Radio Network, LOL.

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-3302100/Investigation-launched-emerges-California-firm-s-radio-broadcasts-backed-Chinese-government.html>

``INVESTIGATION LAUNCHED INTO COVERT CHINESE RADIO NETWORK
BROADCASTING IN 12 U.S CITIES AND BACKED BY THE BEIJING GOVERNMENT

Report revealed some radio broadcasts are being backed by the Chinese
--- G&E Studio Inc is 60% owned by state run Chinese Radio
International --- The firm is owned by James Su, a naturalized US
citizen born in Shanghai --- He owns or leases virtually all the air
time on at least a dozen US stations``

I spent a lot (100's) of hours listening to 1520AM KYND while I worked at my shop, and can say that yes, some of the programming from G&E/CRI was obviously hand picked by the Chinese Government, along with the fact that a lot of the big news stories involving China mysteriously were just left out of the programming entirely. But still it was a good listen, and informative (KF5JMD, ibid.)

Interesting posts. "G&E Studio Inc is 60% owned by state run Chinese Radio International"; "The company leases stations and air time". G&E does not own stations from what I know (and I sure don't know it all). The Daily Mail article clearly says that: G&E does not own any U.S. stations, but it leases.

So, let's clarify: you rent a space to open, say a hair styling salon on the corner of a busy intersection. You pay the rent and attend to your customers at that location. My question, does the salon operator own the building? Next question: Is the salon owner leasing the space from the building owner? If you rent/lease a home, do you own it?

I think it might be fair to say 60% of their revenue came from the

client China Radio International. What I find interesting is how a naturalized citizen can be foreign ownership. Sure, they could be a 'front' but a citizen is not [sic] a citizen.

For the record, I have never seen, spoken to or dealt with Mr. Su. If he was leasing the station I manage, I think I'd know it or I'd have some contact at some point over half a decade. I have known of the people I dealt with prior to them coming to us about the lease. In fact they had been involved in radio in Houston.

Covert is really a funny way to describe things since most of the programming came from independent air talent in the Los Angeles area who were hired to do shows on topics like finance, sports, entertainment and such.

They would have been very covert if they were still on by making fun of the Miss Universe blunder and how Mr. Harvey's post misspelled Philippines and Colombia. Scary covert stuff indeed. My point is most all programming I heard was the same sort of stuff you'd hear elsewhere on the radio dial.

It is true the English language programming, while mostly originated in Los Angeles, was paid for through CRI who hired G&E Studios to originate programming and broadcast a couple of shows off of CRI's English Service. Even the news originated from Los Angeles air talent, was simply rip and read, with local weather and traffic added.

This would be akin to the BBC hiring an American company to place BBC programming on stations in the USA and authorizing that company to originate programming of interest to the American public. The BBC is known as a state broadcaster (b-turner, ibid.)

Yep, that's me jocking from my cheap studio at the house. That's what I get for being an old top 40 jock back in the day when you only spoke over the music and shut up before the lyrics began. We were having some problems today and the engineer will be out there in the morning to see why what couldn't go wrong did.

I mean we are talking something like turning on the radio, then you walk away from it 5 minutes and for some reason without human intervention, it turns itself off. All you can do is scratch your head, turn it back on and watch it for a while to see if it does the same thing. Then again, if you watch it, it never messes up. It waits until you are not watching it. Or at least that's my experience with equipment that is to do what it is supposed to do (b-turner, Dec 22, ibid.)

G&E Studio is still on in Atlanta (WJTP-890). Its the ONLY foreign

station in this market on in English. I used to enjoy listening to Nikki Lee's program till they took her off (Lou KF4RCA Johnson, Dec 29, WORLD OF RADIO 1806, DX LISTENING DIGEST) Later replaced by something, else? in Chinese only: next DXLD

** U S A. US station history questions [including:] 1540, PA, I have conflicting listings for Philadelphia and Bala Cynwyd. FCC currently shows Philadelphia, the old WJMJ was also Philadelphia? Was it ever really in Bala Cynwyd? (Russ Edmunds, PA, NRC-AM via DXLD)

For many of these questions, the answers reside in the FCC's history cards, which can be accessed through the AM Query. *IF* the station existed before 1978, and *IF* its history cards have been scanned, a PDF link will appear in the detailed search results from AM Query. The scanning is taking place as resources permit, in alphabetical order based on the station's callsign as of the end of the history card system in 1978. They are up to about WK-- now, maybe WL--.

The 1540 Philly question is complicated. In order to get night power, 1540 had to be relicensed from Philadelphia to Bala. (There was never a site change.) There was a CP grant in the early 1990s, and the CP was actually built out. But the story goes that the station never paid the consulting engineer who did the work to put in the new night phasor (at the day location along Ridge Pike in Roxborough), and after waiting for his bills to get paid, said engineer went back one night, removed the night equipment and walked away. The night facility was never rebuilt, no license to cover the CP was ever filed, and 1540 reverted to daytime-only with Philadelphia as COL. (It's safe to tell this story now; the engineer in question died some years back and it's become local broadcast legend, with the added fillip that it's actually true!) s (Scott Fybush, NY, *ibid.*) Lately a CRI relay (gh)

** U S A. 1550, Dec 29 at 1403 UT, flood warning for SE Missouri and adjacent states, ``Talk Radio 100.3`` IDs, temp for Cape Girardeau, so KAPE, 5 kW day power, the AM simulcaster not worth mentioning. Per NRC AM Log, 100.3 is a mere translator, K262AX, so no longer branded as ``Cape 15-50``. Not many cities are lucky enough to match call letters with (part of) their name.

Silent KLFJ Springfield remains out of the way for us to get KAPE beyond. Never mind the Okies on 1550. When skywave is gone on 1550, we get KYAL Sapulpa vs KKLE Winfield KS. Flooding along the Mississippi around St Louis could lead some AM stations legitimately to run day facilities at night (Glenn Hauser, OK, DX LISTENING DIGEST)

** U S A. [Re 15-51:] And in re: KATZ, the SIU Salukis website says that they carry both football and men's basketball.
<http://www.siusalukis.com/multimedia/silu-radionetwork.html>

(Raymie Humbert, Phúnix AZ, Dec 24, WTFDA Forum via DXLD)

** U S A. Re: Weird pirate on 1610? (San Diego) "Pelecanus" pirate is still active on 1610. Audio is still annoyingly mushy but it gets out well. 73 (Tim Hall, Sent from my BlackBerry 10 smartphone, 0224 UT Dec 27, ABDX via DXLD)

** U S A. A FEW MINUTES WITH ... A DEEJAY IN THE (HIS) HOUSE
Jim Schaefer, Detroit Free Press 6:21 p.m. EST December 27, 2015

Jim Schaefer interviews Steven Cherry about the low-power AM radio stations Cherry runs from his house in Hamtramck. Jim Schaefer, Detroit Free Press (Photo: Jim Schaefer Detroit Free Press)

If you're lucky to stumble onto this little radio station in Hamtramck -- like I did -- you might get to meet Steven Cherry, who built a low-power AM station that he runs from the front room of his corner home on Sobieski Street.

Cherry, 43, has been on the air for about six years. He and his buddies play everything from Motown to rock to techno, emphasis on local and vinyl. Last year, Cherry ran into a little trouble with the Federal Communications Commission.

So he shut it down for awhile. But he's still on the Internet at AM1610.org, and he says my visit will inspire him to make the fixes to get back permanently on your AM dial if you're in the neighborhood.

QUESTION: First things first, you're not broadcasting any more in your neighborhood, what happened?

ANSWER: The FCC paid me a visit. And they were very nice, great guys at the FCC. Showed up at the door and said my field strength was too strong for the FCC guidelines, which I sort of operate under.

Meaning you were able to be picked up way too far than you were supposed to, by people with radios.

Way too far. (pause.) There was a moment of pride. They got me up at 8 Mile. ... They said it was about 5,000 times too strong. . .
<http://www.freep.com/story/news/columnists/jim-schaefer/2015/12/26/few-minutes-deejay-in-his-house/77845498/>
(via Harry Van Vugt, Ontario, dxldyg via DXLD)

** U S A. 1640, Dec 27 at 0110 UT, KZLS Enid-Hennessey-OKC is in dead air again, as a winter storm is approaching, scared silent? So I can hear some music playing under the carrier, unlikely stupid sports-talking from WTNI MS; tweaking the NRD-545 tuning for tight bandwidth

and passband, past the KZLS carrier, 0130 UT Spanish announcement, ``disfrute la diferencia``, 0131 UT ad with an 801-area code, which nails it as the SS Utahn, KBJA Sandy. This had been DKBJA for a while, Deleted by FCC, but now the D is gone, so they are apparently {Undeleted, UKBJA?} legally on air again. Nothing helpful about this in their Correspondence File at AM Query.

1640, Dec 29 at 0255 UT, local KZLS Enid is still/again in dead air except for hum, facilitating pulling other audio around it on the NRD-545, with antenna angle minimizing, narrowed bandwidth and passband tuning just right:

Spanish show with marriage advice; 0259 UT closing with 801-AC phone number for Patricia, i.e. UTAH, until semana entrante, so a brokered weekly program. 0300 UT sharp, ID in Spanish as ``KBJA, 16-40-AM`` and then in English, ``KBJA, 16-40 AM, Salt Lake City``. Not sure if they mentioned SLC or Sandy in Spanish, but as CoL, Sandy is supposed to be in legal IDs. Meanwhile I was also getting WSJP in WI (Glenn Hauser, OK, DX LISTENING DIGEST)

** U S A. 1640, Dec 29 at 0255 UT, while mainly hearing Spanish from KBJA UT, better on the N/S antenna I am also hearing English, prayer to Jesus, and Xmas music, no doubt WSJP Sussex WI, now Alabaman Catholic with EWTN; tnx to dead air from local KZLS, pulling audio around it with narrow bandwidth, PBT (Glenn Hauser, OK, DX LISTENING DIGEST)

** U S A. 1640, FLORIDA (TIS/HAR), WQDM970, FDOT Florida Turnpike, Sawgrass Expressway MM [mile marker] 4, Broward County. 1025 December 26, 2015. Most likely the one, which would be propagating about 190 miles. Looping SE/SSE. Quasi-generic loop with compu-female mentioning, "... 1 8 8 8... W W W dot... (and the key to narrowing down)... Interstate Five Ninety Five..." and real man mentioning "This is the Florida..." Seemingly slightly off-channel (low side). Suspect this is the Florida Turnpike transmitter on the Sawgrass Expressway at MM 4, Broward County, which dumps into I-595 on the southern terminus and as from previous listening experience while passing through, got out well. FCC dB shows the calls are WQDM970; on my Florida Low Power Radio Stations page, it's just a generic entry at the end of the long list of FL Turnpike 1640 entries which is this one, as I pegged it to MM 4 in the line item.

1690, FLORIDA, (MIS), WQKP882, Pinellas County Traffic Management; Largo. 0240 December 30, 2015. Great. Someone contract again came down again and fixed this and I bet the other two functioning transmitters across the county. This specific transmitter has been a weak carrier blob for at least 3-4 months and getting out only a few thousand feet as of my last direct pass-by this past weekend. Now, it's a huge

signal -- cleanest audio in years -- with the same, useless generic loop they've run for years (and never any signage to inform the citizenry these exist). What's the point of this tax waste nonsense? Anyone wanting to hear this while it's tuned up very hot, listen for an approximately 1:15 male/female loop mentioning the frequency, two calls, the State Move Over Law and how we must watch out for bad motorcycle drivers.

Florida Low Power Radio Stations:

<https://sites.google.com/site/floridadxn/florida-low-power-radio-stations>
(Terry L. Krueger, All times/dates GMT. NRD-535, IC-R75, roof dipole, active loop, Clearwater, FL, DX LISTENING DIGEST) See also FM below

** U S A. Caradio bandscan Dec 30 starting at 1918 UT finds skywave in play half a sesquihour after local mean noon, including:

1620, at 1918 UT, ``The Zone``, i.e. KOZN Bellevue (Omaha) NE

1510, at 1921 UT, football game, fades up and down, KCTE Independence MO, also with lo het, so must be on its off-frequency transmitter now. This het is just a bit higher-pitched than the one on 1540, at 1928 UT 1540, at 1921 UT, low audible het, like I was getting at sunrise from KGBC Galveston TX (vs KXEL IA likely)

1660, at 1921 UT, sports talk, probably KWOD Kansas City KS, tho ND and TX are also sports

1700, at 1922 UT, sports talk about Iowa over TexMex music, i.e. KBGG Des Moines IA and KKLK Richardson TX.

See also separate logs: OKLAHOMA [non] 1460; USA 700, 1360 (Glenn Hauser, OK, DX LISTENING DIGEST)

** U S A. 1700, NEW YORK, WRCR, Ramapo. 1014 December 26, 2015.

Tentative as no ID, but very briefly someone up in dominating co-channel WJCC, Miami Springs (Haitian kreyól) and KVNS, Brownsville (Fox Sports Radio) with mention of New York and a possible ad, with clear 908 area code (New Jersey) then lost, pointing NE. The newest X-Bander I believe, having surrendered their in-band channel for this in July (Terry L. Krueger, All times/dates GMT. NRD-535, IC-R75, roof dipole, active loop, Clearwater, FL, DX LISTENING DIGEST)

** U S A. 100.1 MHz, FLORIDA (LPFM), WYPW-LP, Brandon. 1700 December 30, 2015. This was just texted to me from a good friend at iHeart Media who lives in Brandon and is hearing what he thought may be a pirate, running a loop stating that due to interference, "WYPW is attempting to change frequency before normal programming begins." I quickly Googled and found that this is a legitimate, recently new LPFM. Some of many links:

http://licensing.fcc.gov/cgi-bin/ws.exe/prod/cdbs/pubacc/prod/app_list.pl?Prefix=BNPL&Arn=20131107AFX&Facility_id=192915

<http://apps.fcc.gov/ecfs/document/view;NEWECFSSESSION=gdMRVhqNJB7fyd9BhTvYXbMZGxDGJHMzXlQrLMxGbqhQp2FPnnfK2!-349327291!-1110365353?id=60001122359>

(Terry L. Krueger, All times/dates GMT. NRD-535, IC-R75, roof dipole, active loop, Clearwater, FL, DX LISTENING DIGEST)

** U S A. BIG RADIO COMPANIES FACING BANKRUPTCY --- This is a little off-topic but worth reading for most people. I think these companies could save some big money if they just dropped the HD, which nobody cares about anyway....
<http://www.golocalprov.com/business/big-radio-companies-facing-bankruptcy-wrpo-and-whjys-parent-cos-in-financia>
-- (Mike Bugaj, Enfield, CT USA, Dec 20, WTFDA gg via DXLD)

Both companies gorged themselves buying up stations well beyond anything reasonable, and now they're sick as a result. Surprise, surprise! (Russ Edmunds, Blue Bell, PA, (15 mi NW of Philadelphia), Dec 21, *ibid.*)

They had to borrow tons of money to make the purchases they did, and now they can't pay down the loans in a timely fashion so they cut expenses to the bone at the various stations in their haphazardly-built empires. Who suffers? Surely not the bigwigs in San Antonio and elsewhere who designed the acquisition schemes in the first place, they have long since had golden parachutes written into their executive contracts. Nope, it's the employees at the stations which they acquired who had nothing to do with the schemes to build the empires but now are forced to take the rap. Regards, ([A]Fred Laun, K3ZO, Temple Hills, MD, *ibid.*)

** U S A. BEFORE DONALD TRUMP, THERE WERE THE SHOCK JOCKS - The Washington Post
https://www.washingtonpost.com/politics/before-donald-trump-there-were-the-shock-jocks/2015/12/23/af28d9be-a8d2-11e5-9b92-dea7cd4b1a4d_print.html
(via Mike Cooper, DXLD)

** VATICAN. Saludos, Glenn. Espero que estÈs muy bien. Te debÌa esto y hoy te cumplo. Merry Xmas and Happy New Year! Ad·n

THE MYTH OF THE VATICAN RADIO'S VACANT-SEAT-QSL-CARD (NOWADAYS)

Finally I am sending this article about Vatican Radio. For years, I have listened to DX programmes in several shortwave stations stating that Vatican Radio issued a special Vacant-Seat-QSL-card. As you know, the Vacant Seat is the period between the death of the Pope and the arrival of a new one after a conclave. During that time, the Holy See establishes a Council of Cardinals led by a Camerlengo that governs

the world's smallest country. The symbols of the Vacant Seat are an umbrella (or at least it looks like that), the Saint Peter's keys crossed and a shield.

Of course, a Vacant Seat is not a very common situation because Popes are not dying everyday. For example, John Paul II had a Papacy that lasted more than 20 years. That's why I always wondered about how a Vacant-Seat-QSL-card could look like. In the late 1980s, I read a very interesting story in *Diexman Uruguay* related to this famous QSL. As far as I can remember, the card didn't display the image of any Pope in particular but a black silhouette was only seen. Naturally, this sends the message that there isn't still a new Pope in the Holy See. Unfortunately, I lost my *Diexman*'s monthly-printed-report so I don't have any images available of this mysterious item in the world of DXing. However, I have searched on the internet to get a sample image of the Vacant-Seat-QSL-card and it has been an impossible task to find one.

In February 2013, Benedict XVI announced he was quitting his duty as a Pope. Something like this hadn't happened in more than 400 years. That meant a new Vacant Seat was just around the corner and I had a real chance of getting a QSL card related to this historic event. Wow! The Vacant Seat started on February the 27th, 2013 and I began listening to Vatican Radio in order to compose accurate reception reports. The frequency was 7310kHz and the signal was quite good. I did this for five days and I thought it was better to make a call to Vatican Radio and give the info to somebody who worked there. If I sent the reports via email they would probably be processed slowly and the QSLs had been issued long time after the Vacant Seat came to its end. I wanted to avoid that situation!

I made three phone calls to Vatican Radio. The second time I spoke to Father Guillermo Ortiz, who was very kind with me. He took notes of my reports and he promised a QSL card. I told him that I wished to receive the Vacant-Seat-QSL-card. He replied he was going to talk to the people in charge of the correspondence department. Days later I made a new phone call and I had a nice talk with a woman (I don't remember her name now). She said she hadn't heard before about the Vacant-Seat-QSL-card and she assumed that was something which had taken place many years ago at Vatican Radio. According to her, nothing was found in the Vatican Radio files related to the so-called QSL card. She confessed they didn't have plans to issue any special QSL card at that moment and there weren't plans for the future either. I was very disappointed!

Months later I received a letter from Vatican Radio. Unfortunately, the postman threw the envelope in my garden and the dog almost ate it! The envelope was destroyed by my four-legged friend but the QSL card

and a short letter from Father Guillermo Ortiz survived. There was no Vacant-Seat-QSL-card but I had a nice photograph portraying both Popes (Benedict XVI and Francisco). The explanation of why the current staff at Vatican Radio hasn't heard of the Vacant-Seat-QSL-card is very simple: John Paul II spent more than two decades as a Pope, before he died in 2005. So the last Vacant Seat occurred in the late 1970s. For sure, many staff members at Vatican Radio retired during all those years without having a Vacant Seat event and that's why the new generation in 2013 didn't have any idea of what I was talking about. And that was quite frustrating!

These lines I am writing try to warn you about the myth of the Vacant-Seat-QSL-card nowadays. All the DX programmes on shortwave should avoid stating that Vatican Radio has a special card to commemorate those Popeless days because -in the last years- that hasn't been true at all.

Merry Xmas and Happy New Year to all! 73s and good DXing! Ad·n
Gonz·lez, Catia La Mar, Vargas State, Venezuela

P.S. The first Vacant Seat in years took place in April 2005 but I forgot the whole thing on the QSL ñ those were busy days! According to staff members, in 2005 Vatican Radio didn't issue any Vacant-Seat-QSL-card either.

EL MITO DE LA QSL DE LA SEDE VACANTE DE RADIO VATICANO (HOY EN D A)

Al fin envi  este art culo sobre Radio Vaticano. Durante a os he escuchado en diversos programas DX de la onda corta sobre la QSL especial que emite Radio Vaticano durante la Sede Vacante. Como sab n, la Sede Vacante es el per odo que hay entre la muerte de un Papa y la llegada de otro, despu s del c ncclave, y durante ese tiempo la Santa Sede establece un Colegio Cardenalicio liderado por un Camarlengo que funge de gobierno en el pa s m s peque o del orbe. Los s mbolos de la Sede Vacante son: una sombrilla (o al menos eso parece), las llaves cruzadas de San Pedro y un escudo.

Desde luego, la Sede Vacante es una situaci n nada com n porque no todos los d as se muere un Papa. Verbigracia, Juan Pablo II tuvo un papado de m s de 20 a os; por todo lo anterior, siempre me preguntaba c mo ser a el aspecto de una tarjeta QSL de la Sede Vacante. A finales del decenio de 1980, le  un art culo muy interesante en iDiexman Uruguay  acerca de la famosa tarjeta. Hasta donde logro evocar,  sta no mostraba ninguna imagen de alg n Papa en particular sino se atisbaba solamente una silueta negra, lo cual indicaba ñ naturalmente - que todav a no hab a nuevo Papa en la Santa Sede. Por desgracia, perd  el ejemplar de mi bolet n mensual impreso de iDiexman  y por lo tanto no tengo imagen disponible de tan misterioso art culo en el

mundo del diexismo. Sin embargo, he buscado en internet alguna imagen de muestra de la QSL de la Sede Vacante y ha sido imposible hallar una.

En febrero de 2013, Benedicto XVI anunció que renunciaba a su papado, algo que no había acontecido en más de 400 años y ello significaba que una nueva Sede Vacante estaba cerca. Disponía de una verdadera oportunidad para obtener una tarjeta QSL de ese momento histórico. °Caray! La Sede Vacante empezó el 27 de febrero de 2013 y empecé a escuchar Radio Vaticano con el fin de redactar informes de recepción precisos. La frecuencia era la de 7310 kHz y la señal era muy buena; lo hice por cinco días y pensaba que era mejor hacer una llamada telefónica a la emisora para dar la información a alguien que trabajase allí. Si enviaba los reportes por correo electrónico, estos probablemente iban a tardar en ser procesados y las QSL serían impresas mucho tiempo después de que la Sede Vacante terminase. °Quería evitar esa situación!

Realicé tres contactos telefónicos a Radio Vaticano. La segunda vez que llamé hablé con el padre Guillermo Ortiz, quien fue muy amable conmigo: tomó nota de mis informes de recepción y me prometió una confirmación por escrito. Yo le comenté que deseaba recibir la QSL especial de la Sede Vacante y él me replicó que iba a hablar del tema con la gente de la sección de correspondencia. Días más tarde, hice otra llamada y hablé con una dama (cuyo nombre no recuerdo ahora) y me dijo que nunca antes había escuchado hablar de la QSL de la Sede Vacante e imaginaba que eso se había hecho en Radio Vaticano hacía bastante tiempo. Según ella, no halló nada al respecto en los archivos de la emisora y me confesó que para ese momento no había planes de emitir una tarjeta especial. Tampoco los había para el futuro. Me sentí muy decepcionado.

Meses después, recibí una misiva de Radio Vaticano. Desafortunadamente, el cartero la lanzó sobre el jardín y el perro casi se la come. El sobre quedó destrozado gracias a mi cuadrúpedo amigo pero se salvaron la tarjeta QSL y una esquela del padre Guillermo Ortiz. No había ninguna QSL de la Sede Vacante pero tenía una buena fotografía de ambos Papas (Benedicto XVI y Francisco). La explicación de por qué el actual equipo de Radio Vaticano no ha escuchado platicar de la QSL de la Sede Vacante, es muy sencilla: el papado de Juan Pablo II duró más de dos décadas, antes de que éste muriese en 2005. Por lo tanto, la última Sede Vacante había sido a finales del decenio de 1970. De seguro, muchos de los trabajadores de Radio Vaticano se jubilaron durante estos años en los que no ha habido un evento de Sede Vacante y por ello la nueva generación de 2013 no tenía ni idea de qué les estaba hablando. °Y eso fue muy frustrante!

Estas líneas que escribo son de advertencia para que sepan que la QSL

de la Sede Vacante es un mito hoy en día. Todos los programas diexistas deberían evitar sostener que Radio Vaticano dispone de una tarjeta especial para conmemorar aquellos días en los que no hay Papa, porque ñ en los últimos años - eso no ha sido para nada verdad.

P.D. La primera Sede Vacante en muchos años se dio en abril de 2005 pero olvidé por completo el asunto sobre la QSL: días muy ocupados. De acuerdo con miembros del equipo de la emisora, en aquella oportunidad tampoco se emitió ninguna tarjeta QSL conmemorativa del hecho.

°Feliz Navidad y Año Nuevo para todos! °73 y buen DX! (Adán González, Catia La Mar, Estado Vargas, Venezuela, Dec 29, DX LISTENING DIGEST)

Adan, Nice to hear from you, and best wishes to you too. Very interesting, but I don't recall ever hearing about such a thing, and I wonder which DX programs were talking about it? And when? I think you are too young to have been listening in the 70s. Also, since the transition from Benedict to Francisco was unprecedented, a resignation, didn't Benedict remain pope until Francisco was crowned, thus no vacancy? Maybe not (Glenn to Adán, via DXLD)

Thank you very much, my friend. In the 1980s, 1990s and even in this century I heard about that special QSL at Vatican Radio. DX programmes? En Contacto on RHC -AER segment- some years ago and Amigos de la Onda Corta in the late 1980s. As I wrote in the essay, I also read about it in the Diexman Uruguay's monthly report that was sent to me via postal mail. You are right, I was a baby boy in the 1970s, hahaha!

It would be nice if somebody reads the story on DXLD and gives some more info on the issue - an image of the Vacant-Seat-QSL-card would be a quite good item. Actually, there was a Vacant Seat in the Vatican back in 2013. Vatican Radio's web site displayed the Vacant Seat symbol during those days and there was a Camerlengo along with a Council of Cardinals. Take care, my friend. Best regards, (Adán González, Venezuela, Dec 30, DX LISTENING DIGEST)

The most recent period of sede vacante of the Holy See began on 28 February 2013, after the resignation of Benedict XVI at 1900 UT on 28 February 2013[2] and ended on 13 March 2013 with the election of Pope Francis, a period of 13 days (Wikipedia via DXLD)

** VIETNAM. Thanks very much to Hiroyuki Komatsubara (Japan) for clearing up an UNID reception I was having on a good number of days in Nov after 1300 (after CNR1 & RTI signed off on 7200). Heard an UNID open carrier on 7196.25, but never was able to pull in any audio. Finally gave up on it, as it was just too weak to tell anything about it.

Now I know from Hiroyuki that I probably heard a VOV-1 spur being generated from their 7210 frequency. He believes that he heard VOV1 spurs on 7196.25 and 7223.75. This makes sense to me, as in the past (as recently as June of this year) I often heard, with fairly good audio, Voice of Vietnam-1 spurs on both 5967.0 & 5983.0, from their 5975 frequency, but have not heard those for many months now. Interesting to now find out about 7196.25 and 7223.75 (Ron Howard, Asilomar State Beach, CA, Dec 29, dxldyg via DX LISTENING DIGEST)

Re VOV-1 spurious signals on 7196.25 and 7223.75 kHz of Daclac / Dak Lak - Buon Me Thuot' site. Previously reported by Y.T. in June 2014 and Febr 2015 in bcdx:

VIETNAM 6020.0 Voice of Vietnam's 4th domestic program, non-direction outlet from Daclac tx site, S=9+25dB or -55dBm signal in eastern Thailand post. Boring endless female reading at 2321 UT, no music heard at all. [Thailand location, selected SDR options, span 12.5 kHz RBW 15.3 Hertz] (wb, wwdxc BC-DX TopNews Febr 21/24, 2015)

6033.400 Odd Frequency, some Himalayan/Myanmar/Laos/Thailand/ SE Asian area - music sound hill people singer heard. Could that be Thimpu Bhutan so early at 2320 UT? In 2300-2400 UT slot, not heard after 0000 UT anymore. Or is this an unknown spurious outlet and needs further investigation.

At 2349 UT on Febr 23 some 10 Hertz downwards now on 6033.390 kHz, little scratchy audio sound, like SoEaAsian jungle or mountain forest tribe people radio program, S=5 fade-out ... [Thailand location, selected SDR options, span 12.5 kHz RBW 15.3 Hertz]

[later] So, the 6033.4 kHz UNIDENTIFIED mysterious spurious signal seems in the clearing now ...

Most probably two symmetric spurious audio signals some ± 13.400 ... x.390 kHz/Hz frequency away distance ... of fundamental Daclac / Dak Lak - Buon Me Thuot' site transmitter installation in Vietnam.

Observed on both domestic Vietnamese 4th service on 6020 kHz and first service on 7210 kHz program outlets these days. That seems their very special - accurate - footprint. Similar item we published in BC-DX TopNews June 2014 already:

7210.000 Voice of Vietnam 1st domestic px from 'Daclac / Dak Lak - Buon Me Thuot' site scheduled 2145-1700 UT, at 1100 UT June 8 - 2014, S=9 or -73dBm heard on remote SDR unit in southern Brisbane Australia. But also the Dak Lak(Daclac) station produced two wider spurious signals of 4 kHz wide bandwidth each, 13.69 kHz distance apart on

7196.305 and 7223.685 kHz.

[some Febr 23 2245 UT / Febr 24 0015 UT morning log of remote eastern Thailand post at Tha Mai location on Uwe's SDR unit place...]
(wb, wwdxc BC-DX TopNews Febr 24, 2015)

Uwe send me this e-mail now: Ich habe eine mir unbekannte Station auf 6033 kHz gehoert, nicht einordenbar,

... Ich tippe auf Ober-/Unterwellen von VoV Daclac auf 6020 kHz. Es ist wie ein Fingerabdruck der installierten Sender in Daclac zu sein, gleiches Phaenomen auch auf 7210 kHz, siehe Hardcopy. Beide Sender strahlen ein Signal ± 13.6 kHz aus (Uwe Volk-THA, wwdxc BC-DX TopNews Febr 24, 2015) (all via wb, late December 2015, DXLD)

** VIETNAM [and non]. CHINA vs. VIETNAM, China Radio International vs. Voice of Vietnam, December 22
1900-1957 9730 KAS 500 kW / 298 deg SEu Portuguese China R Internat
1900-1957 9730 SON 100 kW / 320 deg WEu English/French V of Vietnam
<http://swldxbulgaria.blogspot.bg/2015/12/china-radio-international-vs-voice-of.html>
(DX RE MIX NEWS #932 from Georgi Bancov and Ivo Ivanov, Dec 28, 2015, via DXLD)

** WESTERN SAHARA [non]. 1550.0, 1212-1302* 14/12 ALGERIA, POLISARIO Front (cland.), Rabouni. Arabic, chanting, anthem (old version). 25342 (Carlos GonÁalves, South coast of Portugal, JRC NRD-545DSP & DRAKE R8-E; Advanced ReceiverResearch amp.; 20 m T2FD, 45 m inv. V, 30 m 180f/0f mini-Bev., 80 m 300f/120f Bev., 200 m 270f/ 90f Bev., 270 m 145f/325f Bev., 300 m 225f/45f Bev., raised, 4 loop K9AY, playdx yg via DXLD)

1550.0, 2243-2302* 21/12, Rabouni. Arabic, talks, songs, anns., anthem (old version). 55444 CG

1550.0, *1812-1954 23/12, Rabouni. Arabic, late start, no prayer, anns., talks, but long audio breaks. 55444 (Carlos GonÁalves, Lisboa, Portugal, JRC NRD-545DSP & PERSEUS sdr; homemade amp. (W7IUUV version); 20 m T2FD, 30 m inv. V, 6x19x6 m Ewe 135f, raised, 4 loop K9AY, playdx yg via DXLD)

** YEMEN [non]. 11860, 1456 23 DEC - SINPO = 25422. ?Middle Eastern Language?, middle eastern music, with microtonal vocals. male announcer at 1501z. QSB=ff. sf128.7, a13, k2, geomag: quiet. 50kw?, Omni?, bearing 18 . Sangean ATS505 w/MFJ-1020C active antenna used to preselect Magic Wand Antenna hanging indoors on west wall. Received at Las Vegas, United States, 13039KM (?) from transmitter at Riyadh (?) . Local time: 0656 (Rodney Johnson, NV, dxldyg via DX LISTENING DIGEST)

11860, 1453 24 DEC - REP. YEMEN RADIO SANAA (YEMEN). SINPO = 25322.
?Middle Eastern Language?, music with microtonal vocals, male
announcer seeming to give short speeches between songs. sf132.7, a11,
k2, geomag: quiet. 50kw?, Omni?, bearing 18 . Sangean ATS505 w/MFJ-
1020C active antenna used to preselect Magic Wand Antenna hanging
indoors on west wall. Received at Las Vegas, United States, 13039KM(?)
from transmitter at Riyadh(?). Local time: 0653 (Rodney Johnson, NV,
dxldyg via DX LISTENING DIGEST)

Also Riyadh 11860 would beam south and it would be interesting to hear
how the strength is in South Africa, for example. I checked at 0915
via Qatar Perseus and 11860 kHz was clearly stronger than supposed
Riyadh on 9715 kHz. Merry Christmas! (Mauno Ritola, Finland, ibid.)

This 9715 kHz signal is not in HFCC at all, and WRTH 2016 lists it as
"low power". So what's this?? And 2200 check for 11860 in Central
Europe: Again a weak signal, this time appearing to suffer from the
frequency being too high (Kai Ludwig, Dec 24, ibid.)

R Sana'a 11860 around 20 UT on Dec 24 at S=6-7 -88dBm in Doha Qatar,
local midnight time. wb (Wolfgang B, schel, ibid.)

Sorry, nothing definitive from South Africa. Friday Dec 24 at 1655 -
1710. 11860 is s3 - s5 with lots of QRN. Can just make out an OM
talking in Arabic, barely readable. Couldn't make out the ID at 1700.

Early morning check Dec 25, 0235-0425, 11860 reception initially very
poor, but improved markedly after our local sunrise (0314 today). But
by about 0330 it was deteriorating again. Early programming was Arabic
music, with assorted songs by OM or YL, and instrumental music on ud
(oud). Switched to a talk format at 0334, and I thought I heard
several mentions of "Yemen" during this period, but not conclusive.
Back to music from 0342, but by now reception was getting poor. Heard
nothing that I would recognise as a formal ID all the time I was
listening; I'm pretty sure I heard a "Yemen" at 0357 and two "San'a"
at 0415 and 0416, but they didn't seem to be part of a formal ID so
probably irrelevant. Tuned out at 0418. By 0500 whatever is there was
at noise level, and still is as of 0524.

Throughout this period nothing at all was heard on 9715. Both EiBi and
Aoki list it as starting at *0300, but HFCC doesn't mention it. Wooden
entry, at least for this time slot?? (Bill Bingham, Johannesburg RSA.
Drake R8E, Sony ICF2001D. dxldyg via DX LISTENING DIGEST)

11860, Dec 24 at 1335, good signal in Arabic discussion from R.
Sana'a, certainly the best on band from Middle East, while East Asian
signals are weak and Dopplery. At 1435 I'm back on the S9+20 signal,

awaiting music to stop for Maghrib Call to Prayer, which happens at 1439:24.5, i.e. 80.5 seconds later than two days ago at 1438:04, and a hefty 87 seconds later than yesterday's anomalous timing. They are belatedly catching up to the ever-latening sunsets, calculated by Gaisma.com for Dec 24 as 1439 UT in Sana'a, 1441 UT in Aden.

Meanwhile, I got out my NGS Globe and checked out the great circle paths. If this is from Jeddah, Saudi Arabia, as speculated, aiming at Sana'a/Aden, the long path all over-water, across the Indian Ocean, way south of Australia, and between Wilkes Land and New Zealand, up across the Pacific, would eventually run right across Enid! Within a degree or so. Our being on the same Great Circle might explain why we are getting such a strong signal, but not so much elsewhere. The short path across Europe also runs very close to Stuttgart and Blackpool, where they are not getting such a strong signal as I am, despite all of us being related near this G.C.

Why should it be an old 50 kW non-direxional transmitter in Jeddah? This is mere speculation, based on its supposed availability tho not reported in some time. HFCC B-15 registrations have it, but imaginary? --- 03-06 9580, 06-17 11855, 17-22 9580; and also: 15-18 6130. I seem to recall that when it was in use, the modulation and frequency accuracy were degraded, neither the case with this 11860.

WRTH 2015 lists 4 x 250 kW also in Jeddah, but Kai Ludwig says: ``And the "4 x 250 kW" are a new facility for which so far no signs of it being on air have been reported. Of course it could be in use already for quite some time, running frequencies registered as "RIY". I think it's a rather unlikely scenario that the complete new facility has been put into real programming use with that 11860 service for the first time.``

In fact the new WRTH 2016, which I just received today as an Xmas present, removes the 4 x 250 kW, and not the 50 kW either, showing the only Saudi SWs are in Riyadh: 4 x 350 kW and 8 x 500 kW. With a dozen high-power units, it seems that BSKSA could certainly spare one for this service with little or no effect on its existing Riyadh output.

However, Sa'udi Arabia itself is only an assumption, based on Saudi political/military support for the ousted president of Yemen. Running the same frequency day and night, 11860, does not make good propagational sense, so we wonder how reception is 24/7 in Yemen. Skip distances, city-to-city in km and miles:

Jeddah to Sanaa: 841 523
Jeddah to Aden: 1128 701
Riyadh to Sanaa: 1100 684
Riyadh to Aden: 1370 851

Our experience at 36 degrees north is that an 11 MHz signal would not normally propagate in the winter night over a ~1 megameter distance, e.g. WTWW 12105. However, Riyadh is about 25 N, Jeddah 22 N, Sana'a 15 N, Aden 12.5 N, all further south with the advantage that entails. For comparison, Okeechobee is at 27 N, habitually propagating when other US SW sites further north are diminished.

11860, Dec 25 at 1431, usual R. Sana'a rousing music, change to a slow ballad at 1438:40 but curtailed for Maghrib call to prayer starting at 1439:16, which is 8.5 seconds *earlier* than yesterday rather than later, so the timing is again zigging and zagging, but the trend continues to be later, in keeping with actual sunset times in Yemen. Now it's S9+15 and IBB Kuwait R. Ashna still audible underneath during pregnant pauses.

11860, Dec 26 at 1320, R. Sana'a is only S3, very poor, not having faded up yet, so I doze. Then at 1344 it's up to S9 during phoner interview in Arabic; By 1430 peaking at S9+10 with rousing music, 1439 and 1440 changing music, until finally cut to Maghrib Qur'an call to prayer starting at 1441:26, which is a good 130 seconds later than yesterday at 1439:16, so now they're catching up to the sunset, calculated (to the minute, not the second) by gaisma.com for Dec 26 as 1442 UT in Aden, 1441 in Sana'a, both to reach 4 minutes later in 1 week.

By 1520 the 11860 signal has diminished to S9, and by final check 1611 only S6, and/or with IBB KUWAIT, which at the peak I could only hear during Qur'anic pauses. So let's say ~1345-1530~ UT is the current window for this at amazingly good strength, starting about sunrise here which was 1341 UT today. At random check elsewhere during the alleged 24-hour schedule of 11860, I hear little or nothing. Where is this Radio Sana'a really from, what power and azimuth?

11860, Dec 27 at 1340, R. Sana'a is in well with Arabic discussion; 1435 I'm back during rousing music at S9+20 with some IADs, standing by for this evening's Maghrib, Call To Prayer interruption, which happens at: 1441:17, also audiblizing IBB Kuwait R. Ashna *still* underneath. This is 9 seconds earlier than yesterday, while it should be a few seconds later. Will Allah get 'em for that? 11860 is still S9+10 at 1516 (Glenn Hauser, OK, DX LISTENING DIGEST)

SAUDI ARABIA {tentat.} 11859.998 noted at 1240 UT Dec 28 on remote SDR unit at Doha Qatar on Arabian peninsula. S=9+10dB or -64dBm signal. Broadband signal of 11855.05 to 11865.05 kHz frequency range. Noted military like army chorus songs of the muslim Arabic terrorist fighter. Followed by extended Arabic language news at 1300 to 1310:20 UT. Professional radio program service type.

Signal strength worldwide at 1310 UT on Dec 28

NIL in JPN, CZE, USA

S=1 lower than threshold FIN, AUT, BEL, GB/IRL

S=2 in St. Gallen SUI, Calabria ITA

S=6 on ham radio HNG unit with excellent antenna, Ancona ITA (Wolfgang B,schel, dxldyg via DX LISTENING DIGEST)

And nothing heard in Joburg at 1340-1343 on Dec 28 (Bill Bingham, Johannesburg RSA. Drake R8E, Sony ICF2001D. dxldyg via DX LISTENING DIGEST)

Yet an hour later same day it's up to its usual good level here in OK; transmitter site changed? (Glenn Hauser, DXLD)

Dear Noel and dear Glenn, in Qatar at 1735 UT S=6 or -87dBm, not strong, and IBB QRM. re short check of Radio Sana'a Dec 28 at 1630 - 1700 UT.

S=9+5dB -68dBm

S=9 -72dBm Calabria / Sicily Italy.

S=9+5dB -70dBm Moscow Russia.

S=4 -98dBm in central / northern Italy, Adria coastline.

NIL in Genua Italy, Riviera coast.

S=7 -84dBm in Lyon-F, St. Gallen Switzerland, Belgium.

S=6 -90dBm in Austria and GB/IRL.

S=4 -106dBm in Bavaria Germany.

S=3 -109dBm in MI-US

S=4 -93dBm in MA-US

NIL in FL-US

S=4 -94dBm in Edmonton Alberta Canada

vy73 de wolffy (Wolfgang B,schel, DX LISTENING DIGEST)

Ahead on 11860 kHz, in western Europe and Italy 1730-1800 AWR Kabyle sce from MBR Nauen towards Morocco and Algeria NW Africa. latter S=9+20dB -60dBm signal. wb (B,schel, Dec 28, ibid.)

It seems that 11860 supplies a useful signal into South Africa for just a few minutes after our local sunrise (around 0314 as I reported on Dec 25), and again at around our local sunset and later. Tonight (Dec 28) it was audible when I tuned in at 1620, with an S4 signal, improving slightly to S4-S5 by 1700. Our local sunset tonight was at 1702. As of 1730 there had been no further improvement, and reception suddenly got worse when considerable co-channel QRM began at 1730 through to about 1755, possibly AWR to North Africa.

Just before the QRM ended, a considerable SAH started at 1754, as though another transmitter had started up on the same frequency. When

the SAH stopped at about 1758, signal was suddenly up to S7 peaking at S9 and perfectly readable.

Reception quality has been similar for the last two nights (Dec 26 and Dec 27), at least after 1800 - I hadn't checked earlier on those occasions (Bill Bingham, Johannesburg RSA. Drake R8E, Sony ICF2001D. dxldyg via DX LISTENING DIGEST)

11860, Dec 28 at 1439, R. Sana'a with rousing music, S9+10 but IADs; 1441 dramatic music and narration, interrupted at 1441:22.5 for Maghrib Call to Prayer, still marred by intermittent audio dropouts. This is only 5.5 seconds later than yesterday, so they are again failing to keep up with the sunset shifting later at a faster rate. This time I don't notice any R. Ashna underneath in the Qur'anic pauses, so has IBB finally moved Kuwait away? Inconclusive about that so far.

As for where this Sana'a is really transmitted from, I have previously suggested that 11860 could be from more than one transmitter site. Three reasons for this:

1, Altho it is reported to be on air 24 hours, only one segment circa 1330-1530 UT provides any significant signal here, and then it is remarkably good. I haven't heard any abrupt signal changes, however.

2, Bill Bingham in South Africa has been monitoring, and reports this: [as above, the signal overlap at 1754 and then much stronger]

3, And earlier there was this from Paraiba: ``Clandestine: 11860, 12/23 1841-1855 Radio Sana'a, Jeddah [sic], in Arabic. Traditional Arabic song; OM talks; fair signal and poor modulation, 35332 (DXer JosÈ Ronaldo Xavier (JRX), Cabedelo - Brazil, Degen DE1103 / Tecsun S-2000, Hard-Core-DX mailing list via DXLD)``

The modulation is *never* ``poor`` when heard here in the 1330-1530 period --- so different site at 1841-1855??? (Glenn Hauser, OK, WORLD OF RADIO 1806, DX LISTENING DIGEST)

SAUDI ARABIA, 11859.9965, Radio Sana'a only heard as S=7-8 in Doha Qatar remote SDR site at 0356 UT, HQ prayer. The only remote SDR unit on Perseus net. Real NIL - NOTHING heard on downunder Brisbane Australia, Greece, Italy, Moscow, Switzerland, Belgium, and also NOTHING as signal on various German remote SDRs. Only heard as S=3 tiny signal just on threshold level on DARC Amberg Bavaria, like port :8015 as 4_loops, not signal on :8014 and :8016 ports of DARC Amberg remotes - nothing. At same time between 0315 and 0410 UT, in Brisbane AUS, Uwe's Perseus in Thailand, Qatar and Calabria Italy:

11860, ARS nil-nothing of Riyadh, 0315 UT. and in Doha Qatar and DARC Amberg Bavaria Germany :8015 port remote SDR net units checked the 25 mb again at 0440 - 0505 UT Dec 28: 11859.9965 R Sana'a tent via Riyadh S=8 at 0440 UT. WB (B,schel, Dec 28, dxldyg via DXLD)

Conditions here seemed only fair in spite of good looking Solar-Terrestrial numbers, but R. Sana'a has still been quite readable lately: Rep. Yemen, Radio Sanaa, 11860, 1441 28 DEC - SINPO = 25322. Arabic, male singing/chanting a Cappella (Qur'an). 1444z male announcer fb music with microtonal vocals. QSB=ff. sf106.1, a11, k2, geomag: quiet. 50kw?, Omni?, bearing 18 . Sangean ATS505 w/MFJ-1020C active antenna used to preselect Magic Wand Antenna hanging indoors on west wall. Received at Las Vegas, United States, 13039 KM(?) from transmitter at Riyadh(?). Local time: 0641 (Rodney Johnson, NV, dxldyg via DX LISTENING DIGEST)

11860, Dec 29 at 1417, another day of remarkable reception from R. Sana'a, from somewhere, Arabic dialog at S9+20, no IADs, 1425 mostly music, but I doze, missing start of Maghrib Call to Prayer! That ends about 1445 so started approx. 1442, and can still hear R. Ashna, IBB Kuwait, in pauses underneath. By 1450 there are now some IADs, or skipping in the music (Glenn Hauser, OK, DX LISTENING DIGEST)

Rep. Yemen Radio Sanaa (Saudia Arabia Relay?) 11860, 1443 29 DEC - SINPO = 35323. Arabic, male singing/chanting a cappella, 1445z male announcer with deep voice fb music with microtonal vocals. QSB=ff. sf113.2, a5, k1, geomag: very quiet. 50kw?, Omni?, bearing 18 ?. Sangean ATS505 w/Sony AN-LP1 active loop in west facing window. Received at Las Vegas, United States, 13039KM? from transmitter at Riyadh?. Local time: 0643 (Rodney Johnson, NV, <http://swldx.tumblr.com/search/11860khz> dxldyg via DX LISTENING DIGEST)

11860, Dec 30 at 1429, R. Sana'a in music at S9+20, usual very good level; 1437 goes to dramatic echoey speech, and CCI from IBB Kuwait audible under; 1439.5 to chanting music; 1441:56 cut to Maghrib, sunset call to prayer (Glenn Hauser, OK, DX LISTENING DIGEST)

** ZAMBIA. 5915, ZNBC/Radio One, 0459, Dec 28. Start of their segment in English; government PSA - "PACRA - business starts here. Register your business with PACRA today ... visit our head office along Haile Selassie Avenue ... www.pacra.org.zm" (PACRA - Patents and Company Registration Agency); music & call of fish eagle; "The time is seven. One Zambia, one nation"; news and sports; 0515 PSA again. Unusual African reception; normally this is too weak by 0500 to make out details.

<https://app.box.com/s/chmes5h97o5un3ykh839ptxcwj8k88>

contains my audio of PSA. Now that Radio Two (English Service) is no

longer on SW, is very nice to hear this brief segment (Ron Howard, Asilomar State Beach, CA, EtÛn E1, antenna: 100' long wire, dxldyg via DX LISTENING DIGEST)

** ZANZIBAR. 6015, ZBC Radio on Dec 28 with transmitter on at 0254 and *0256 with pop African music; time pips, which today was accurate, but on Dec 14 the time pips were noted at 0257.

Dec 28 had unusual African reception. Normally this is too weak after 0400 to get many details, but today held up well till 0430; news (items about "Zanzibar," "Washington," "Beijing," etc); several monologues; 0430 brief chanting (identical to the one heard at 0344) (Ron Howard, Asilomar State Beach, CA, EtÛn E1, antenna: 100' long wire, dxldyg via DX LISTENING DIGEST)

11735, ZBC, Dole. 1821 December 24, 2015. Just beginning to fade in at tune-in, steadily improving to nice level just before 1900. Time sounders (five lower, one high tone) at 1900, Swahili newscast by female until 1900:15, then into Islamic-influenced vocals. Time tones again at 2000, news, vocals past 2030, but gone by 2040 re-check (earlier than usual just past 2100 variable closing). (Terry L. Krueger, All times/dates GMT, NRD-535, IC-R75, roof dipole, active loop u.o.s., Clearwater, FL u.o.s., DX LISTENING DIGEST)

UNIDENTIFIED. 830, Dec 24 at 0602 UT, last few strains of choral Mexican NA among the mix as I am nulling signal already reduced from WCCO with CBS News --- so Spanish here doesn't have to be WFNO Norco LA. Ten XEs are listed (Glenn Hauser, OK, DX LISTENING DIGEST)

UNIDENTIFIED. 890.7, Dec 27 at 0123, quite a het here not against WLS, but against Cuba's R. Progreso on 890.0. Can't pull any audio from it, but is best on E-W rather than N-S antenna. Surely Algeria would not be that far off 891 (Glenn Hauser, OK, DX LISTENING DIGEST)

UNIDENTIFIED. 1639.84, 1026 December 26, 2015. Reading approximate. No audio making it through. Suspect an off-channel TIS/HAR and definitely lower than the audible SE Florida I-595 Turnpike audible signal (Terry L. Krueger, All times/dates GMT. NRD-535, IC-R75, roof dipole, active loop, Clearwater, FL, DX LISTENING DIGEST)

UNIDENTIFIED. 1690, Dec 24 at 0524 UT, the unmistakable voice of Dick Cavett, not heard in a long time, apparently current since he is talking about Trump with a talkhost who is impressed by The Donald. No DF on it so not sure if WVON Berwyn (Chicago) or reformatted KDMT Arvada (Denver), now meaning ``Money Talk`` (Glenn Hauser, OK, DX LISTENING DIGEST)

UNIDENTIFIED. 6870.0-AM, Dec 28 at 0308, very poor S7 signal with

talk, 0349 a JBA carrier, presumably a pirate. HF Underground has no logs of this, and the frequency only had two other unIDs this year in Sept and earlier in Dec (Glenn Hauser, OK, DX LISTENING DIGEST) Later: IDed by Chris Smolinski as RHC, 0.5 x 13740! See next DXLD

UNIDENTIFIED. 6990.40-USB, Dec 29 at 0231, Spanish 2-way mentions 16-570 (or 16-560), possibly a related daytime frequency (Glenn Hauser, OK, DX LISTENING DIGEST)

UNIDentified. European Pirate on December 27:
1400-1530 on 9293 unknown tx site, very poor
<http://swldxbulgaria.blogspot.bg/2015/12/unidentified-european-pirate-on.html>
-- 73! (Ivo Ivanov, QTH: Sofia, Bulgaria, dxldyg via DXLD)

UNIDENTIFIED. Anyone know the ID of the station right now (1318 UT) on 9420 kHz heard via Twente? Does not seem to be either ERT - Voice of Greece nor CNR 13. Recording for later analysis (Richard Langley, NB, Dec 24, dxldyg via DX LISTENING DIGEST)

Sounds like CNR-13 (Uighur Service), // 9890 kHz (David Kernick, Interval Signals Online, ibid.)

Thanks. You are probably right. I discounted CNR 13 initially as it didn't seem to be parallel to the online streaming from
<http://www.uycnr.com/>

Are they known to be different? The time pips are definitely Chinese. I was hearing words like "radiostantsiya" and "programa" and thought perhaps it was a slavic language but it seems these words are used in Turkic languages too, like Uyghur. I clearly need to improve my Uyghur. ;-) (-- Richard Langley, ibid.)

UNIDentified. Open carrier/dead air, Dec 25
1405-1500 on 9495 unknown transmitter site
1500-1600 on 9495 plus CNR-1 Jammer vs RFA
<http://swldxbulgaria.blogspot.bg/2015/12/unidentified-open-carrierdead-air-dec25.html>
-- 73! (Ivo Ivanov, B`lgariya, dxldyg via DXLD)

UNIDentified. Station with Arabic music, December 21:
1100-1110 on 9600 unknown tx site, test tone 1000 Hz
1110-1116 on 9600 unknown tx site, non-stop Ar music
<http://swldxbulgaria.blogspot.bg/2015/12/unidentified-station-with-arabic-music.html>

UNIDentified two stations has observed on December 23:
0910-0915 on 9600 unknown tx site non-stop Arabic music
0910-0915 on 9600 unknown tx site DRM mode, very strong

<http://swldxbulgaria.blogspot.bg/2015/12/two-unidentified-stations-on-9600-khz.html>

(DX RE MIX NEWS #932 from Georgi Bancov and Ivo Ivanov, Dec 28, 2015, via DXLD)

UNIDentified. Station with Arabic music, December 25:

1056-1101 on 9600 unknown tx site, test tone 1000 Hz

1101-1112 on 9600 unknown tx site, poor signal today:

http://swldxbulgaria.blogspot.bg/2015/12/unidentified-station-with-arabic-music_25.html

-- 73! (Ivo Ivanov, B'lgariya, dxldyg via DX LISTENING DIGEST)

UNIDENTIFIED. 9600, Dec 25 at 1501, S9 open carrier with flutter until off at 1502:40*. HFCC and Aoki show nothing here before 1500, but at 1500-1530 is supposed to be CRI in Persian via Kashgar --- maybe gave up after failing to ignite transmission (Glenn Hauser, OK, DX LISTENING DIGEST) Hmmm, could that be related to the other 9600 items?

UNIDentified. Station with Arabic music on December 29

1030-1035 on 9600 unknown tx site, very poor signal:

http://swldxbulgaria.blogspot.bg/2015/12/unidentified-station-with-arabic-music_30.html

-- 73! (Ivo Ivanov, QTH: Sofia, Bulgaria, Equipment: Sony ICF-2001D 30 m. long wire, dxldyg via DX LISTENING DIGEST)

UNIDENTIFIED. 9830.14 approx., Dec 24 at 0712, an off-frequency JBA carrier catches my ear, but this semihour has nothing listed on 9830, after DW via S,,o TomÈ until 0700, CNR from 0730 (Glenn Hauser, OK, DX LISTENING DIGEST)

UNIDENTIFIED. 11621.0-USB, Dec 25 at 1456, INTRUDER, 2-way in colloquial Spanish, OM talking about huevos (which kind?) with lots of engine(?) noise in background; his weaker contact without the noise sounds like a YL voice, unusual for these, but no mentions of putas heard (Glenn Hauser, OK, DX LISTENING DIGEST)

UNIDENTIFIED. 15244.90-LSB, Dec 29 at 1505, INTRUDERS, 2-way in Spanish, discussing some commodity in 12 Û 13 kilos, both with engine noise in background ñ speedboats or planes drug-smuggling? Still going at 1525 recheck.

I often encounter these in- or out-of-band during routine bandscanning, and wonder why no one else ever seems to report them. Even editors don't want to include them since they are not SWBC. Of course they cannot be identified, but still --- DEA at least ought to be interested in knowing such frequencies to monitor in case they slip some useful info, and of course sophisticated equipment could get a fix on them (Glenn Hauser, OK, DX LISTENING DIGEST)

UNIDENTIFIED. 18165-USB, Dec 25 at 1551, not much amateur activity, but here's someham in what sounds like Low German, probably from northeast America. A frequency to recheck (Glenn Hauser, OK, DX LISTENING DIGEST)

UNIDENTIFIED. 21585, Dec 28 at 1506, JBA carrier. Nothing at all is listed on 21585 in latest HFCC or EiBi or Aoki. In the mostly vacant 13m band, any carrier stands out with BF0. At this time, 21690 RFI Swahili via Issoudun is S7, while 21675 WRMI is only JBA (Glenn Hauser, OK, DX LISTENING DIGEST)

UNIDENTIFIED. RF 2, Dec 27 at 1743 UT, weak NTSC video fades in, then a bit of audio to go with it. 1746 definitely Spanish audio, seems novela. Tiny text bug in lower right, unfamiliar and unreadable. In and out for a few minutes, nothing further. 6m map shows the only sporadic E is across northeast US, MUF 67 MHz.

My antenna remains permanently aimed about 170 degrees to favor Mexico and Oklahoma City. I habitually assume something like this is Mexico, but that's becoming less so and with their apag n anal gico Dec 31, the band will be more open for more exotic Latin American analog TV DX which still exists (Glenn Hauser, OK, DX LISTENING DIGEST)

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#### UNSOLICITED TESTIMONIALS

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#### ACKNOWLEDGED ON WORLD OF RADIO 1806:

Thanks to Fred Jodry, Demarest NJ, for a PMO in the p-mail to P O Box 1684, Enid OK 73702.

#### TO BE ACKNOWLEDGED FUTURELY:

Hi Glenn, thank you for all your hard work on WOR, I'm ashamed to report that this is my first donation after many years of enjoyable listening and reading. 73s for 2016 (Mike, Bournemouth, England, Terry, in GBP via PayPal to woradio at yahoo.com)

In recognition of your key role in keeping the DX hobby alive (Dan Goldfarb, England, with a contribution in GBP via PayPal to woradio at yahoo.com)

Thanks to Will Martin, St Louis MO, for a generous check to P O Box 1684, Enid OK 73702 (and for re-renewing a subscription to The Week)

Dear Glenn, Please accept this long-overdue gesture of appreciation for your hard work in continuing to compile and distribute DXLD, despite all the changes in our wonderful hobby. I wish you a happy and healthy 2016! Vy 73 de (Anne Fanelli, Elma NY, Dec 21, with a check to P O Box 1684, Enid OK 73702)

Keep up the good work! (Henning Vahlbruch, Germany with a contribution in US\$ via PayPal to woradio at yahoo.com)

Needless to say, over the years I have very much enjoyed my membership in your excellent DXLD yg! Has provided me with a great deal of information, that has increased the pleasure I get from SWL (Ron Howard, CA)

Cheers & thanks for providing world-class DX info (Dan Sheedy, Moonlight Beach, CA E5/6m X wire, DX LISTENING DIGEST)

Subject: WOR HITLIST --- Thank you for providing this page. I greatly enjoy it (Sheryl Paszkiewicz, Sent from my iPad, Dec 29)

Sheryl, Good, and Alan Roe will be pleased too (gh)

Best wishes and Happy New Year! Thank you for all your work for the DX and SWL community - it is very much appreciated! (Alan Roe, England)

PUBLICATIONS  
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SHORTWAVE BROADCASTING SITES LOCATOR at the following url:

<http://www.qrz.com/db/XE1JLW>  
(James Mills, Dec 26, shortwavesites yg via DXLD)

Link to wikimapia for many sites, past and present, plus some photos interspersed (gh)

LANGUAGE LESSONS  
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HAIKU POEM

winter is with us  
DX season upon us  
hunt down that DX

[SEE MYANMAR] (Ron listening at the beach). [WORLD OF RADIO 1806]

I still remember Don Jensen's 2012 poem:



``No beach DX here.  
I'm driving myself to drink  
Port Blair still eludes  
--don``

(Ron Howard, CA, DX LISTENING DIGEST)

15770, WRMI, Radio Miami Int'l (presumed); 1715-1722+, 20-Dec; Bro.  
Hystairical; ragging on scoffers, mockers & other prophets including  
"other supposed men of God." He also said that he is "The Sign"  
(Beware of False Prophets?) and still saying he might not be on after  
1/1. SI0=4+53+

+++ tuned in at 2132 to hear a non-B.S. huxter talking about  
"fornicants". (Is that generic for fornicators & fornicatees?)  
SI0=454; different English non-B.S. huxter on 7570 talking about the  
Rapture. (When's the next regularly scheduled one?) SI0=454 (Harold  
Frodge, MI, MARE Tipsheet Dec 25 via DXLD)

My dictionary doesn't have that word, but I did learn something  
interesting about the origins of the word fornicate in the process of  
looking: ORIGIN Middle English (as fornication): from ecclesiastical  
Latin fornicat- ēarched, í from fornicari, from Latin fornix, fornic-  
ēvaulted chamber, í later ēbrothel. í Now we know, but did the 'arched'  
refer to architecture of the brothel, or something more anatomical?  
Inquiring minds want to know! -kvz (Kenneth Vito Zichi, MI, MARE  
Tipsheet Dec 25 via DXLD)

#### CONVENTIONS & CONFERENCES

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#### SCHEDULE POSTED FOR SAVING AMERICA'S RADIO HERITAGE EVENT, 2016

Radio Preservation Task Force Conference --- Saving America's Radio  
Heritage: Radio Preservation, Access, and Education

Friday 26 February ñ Library of Congress, Madison Building,  
Washington, DC; and

Saturday 27 February ñ University of Maryland's Special Collections in  
Mass Media & Culture, Hornbake Library, College Park, MD  
[including the QSL archive, I believe --- gh]

See:

<http://radiopreservation.org/>

(Benn Kobb, Dec 29, DX LISTENING DIGEST)

Extensive agenda of panels, addresses (gh)

DIGITAL BROADCASTING --- DRM See GUAM; INDIA; IRAN; NEW ZEALAND;  
+++++ NIGERIA; SRI LANKA; UNIDENTIFIED 9600

DIGITAL BROADCASTING --- IBOC See also USA: 1110  
+++++

HD RADIO UPDATE PLEASE - FARMERIK

Do have need to be very close to both AM and FM transmitters to get a reliable signal? (FARMERIK, CT, ABDX via DXLD)

This is an easy one to answer. Most of the time you have to be within 25 miles but there are occasions where it goes further. HD really sucks in a car (Kevin Redding, Crump TN, Dec 29, *ibid.*)

It depends on where you are. If you're out west listening to a 100 kW class C station and there's nothing on the first-adjacent channels (which is where the FM HD actually lives), you can often carry HD for 40-50 miles. If you're in the east and the first-adjacent have interference on them, you'll get far less range.

I routinely keep an HD lock on WLKK 107.7, about 50 miles from me, but there's not much to interfere on 107.5 or 107.9. I have occasionally locked in AM HD by skywave from WBT, WBZ and others here in Rochester. s (Scott Fybush, NY, *ibid.*)

Thanks. FM would probably not work at my location. I have crowded band conditions and stations in every direction from here in the center of southern New England. No really close stations though. For AM I have a question. Something I read suggested to me AM does not have the sub stations [HD1, HD2 etc.]. Is that correct? Only alleged improved digital sound (FARMERIK, *ibid.*)

And it obviously also depends on the power of the station. My experience with KDDZ 1690 was that their 10 kW ND Day signal was only good for 20 miles or less in digital, and their 1 kW ND Night signal was only good for about 5 miles or less in digital.

One can only wonder how many of the stations that tried it would have tried it if they had known how poorly it worked. The people marketing it surely did not tell them they could only expect their digital signal to travel only 5 miles or less at night with 1 kW, especially for the licensing fees they were charging for it. If they didn't end up with lawsuits against them, they were darned lucky!

Is there is anyone who truly believes IBOC is better than C-QuAM? Far

more stations used C-QuAM, and for a much longer time period. IBOC is so bad, it didn't take long for everyone to see what a complete failure it is. Look how many stations are still using it. Clear Channel was one of the investors in IBOC, but they turned it off at all of their stations I know of long ago.

None of their Denver stations have used it for quite a while. The only stations in the Denver market still using it are owned by religious groups. Why they are still hanging on is hard to figure. Now that translators can be used by AM stations, they can get far more distance in stereo on FM with a translator than they could in stereo with IBOC on AM, plus everyone has an FM receiver, but very few have IBOC. The FCC talks big about trying to revitalize AM, but they drove a big nail in the coffin when they authorized AM stations to use translators. 73, (Kit W5KAT, CO, *ibid.*)

My experience with HD-AM in a car --- The last AM station anywhere near me running HD is an X-bander [1620], WTAW College Station. Very much fringe and weak in Houston, although listenable with some static in my West Houston location. Being on the outskirts of town, there are some rural highways and streets. What I discovered was that when I was on a street with NO power lines beside the street, WTAW HD came in and locked, and stayed locked. It was quite a contrast - weak analog compared to very clear but obviously digitized audio. Any time I got within a quarter mile of a power line - WTAW HD dropped and didn't come back until I was away from the power line.

Unfortunately, there are very few streets or highways without power lines running along them. Because there is virtually no interference from some of them, I assume the power lines themselves act as giant longwire antennas, distorting the field coming from the station itself (phase distortion?). No matter what the mechanism, my side of town is growing rapidly, where there were open fields three years ago there are now subdivisions and shopping centers, with power lines lining the same streets that were free of them when I did the test three years ago. WTAW HD no longer is receivable unless I go further west and find streets and highways with no power lines.

There is nothing of note on WTAW that would make it a station I want to seek out, so I really don't care whether it is HD or not. Just observations of the reception (Bruce Carter, TX, Dec 30, *ibid.*)

The main reasons for the AM garbage IBOC were political. With the major broadcasters funding iBiquity, there was heavy pressure to come up with both AM and FM systems. It could be argued that the FM system does seem to be slowly gaining acceptance. The AM system should have been outlawed before it was ever deployed. Some of the CBS stations still spew this obnoxious trash, but I suspect that's because one of

their engineers was a key part of iBiquity during the development years. AM stations still running IBOC should be ashamed of themselves. Turn it off, guys! 73, (Mike Gorniak, NM7X, MN, *ibid.*)

DIGITAL BROADCASTING --- DTV See also MEXICO; OKLAHOMA  
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TRANSLATORS: POST-REPACK PLANS, PROSPECTS PREVIEWED  
By Ashley Ludlow and Peter Tannenwald, *CommLawBlog*, December 28, 2015.  
<http://tinyurl.com/hdl3xzt>

In addressing LPTV/translator future, FCC declines to loosen several regulatory leashes. Low Power Television (LPTV) and TV translator stations face a difficult and uncertain future in the post-incentive auction context. Thanks to the auction (and the consequent spectrum repack), the FCC will reduce the number of channels available for television broadcasting -- perhaps eliminating for TV use all channels above Channel 31. All full power and Class A stations will then be repacked into the remaining channels based on computer programs that disregard the existence or fate of LPTV/translators. LPTV/translator operators have, not unexpectedly, loudly cried "foul" and two court appeals are pending over their ultimate fate (via Neal McLain, Dec 29, WTFDA gg via DXLD)

Thinking out loud here, what are the chances the FCC is going to get sued big time by the owners of LPTV's and translator stations? Can the FCC, as a Federal government entity, be sued AT ALL for anything they do? Or are they exempt from lawsuits?

I'm not lobbying for those owners or groups, but just speculating such a thing could \*happen\*, from a business owners perspective. I know the WTFDA email list isn't a place for \*political discussion\*, but it appears there are a lot of implications with the impending repacking. It goes way beyond how we feel about it, in DXing terms (Jim Thomas, Springfield, Missouri, *ibid.*)

Well, the House Republicans are suing the President over funding for the ACA, and the District Court for the District of Columbia has ruled that they have standing to sue. So I guess if you can sue the President you can sue the FCC.  
<http://tinyurl.com/poehey6>  
(Neal McLain, *ibid.*)

The government is determined to destroy OTA television. Our local Fox station is low power as is the Fox station in St. Joseph, Missouri. We have a cabin in New Mexico [Eagle Nest] where all local non payTV service is via translators. This incentive auction is getting worse and worse (Dave Pomeroy, Topeka, Kansas, *ibid.*)

Here's a very good comprehensive analysis of DTV SS, SNR, and MER -  
<http://www.aa6g.org/DTV/Noise/noise.html>

When co-channel interference occurs, you decode nothing and see nothing until one signal becomes at least 15.5 dB stronger than competing signals. With FM radio a similar capture ratio phenomena occurs, but it's only about 2 dB, compared to 15.5 dB on DTV, so co-channel interference is a much greater problem on DTV than on FM.

With AM, such as the BC band, there is no capture area, and you hear both or many stations if their SS [signal strength] are similar.

One type of co-channel interference is multipath where the same signal is reflected and arrives multi-seconds later. If you have large buildings or mountains, it's not unusual to have reflections that amount to 1/10th or 1/20th of the power of the direct signal. That 1/10th or 1/20th power would be 10 dB or 13 dB weaker than the direct signal, but you need a signal 15.5 stronger than all others in order to decode and see anything, so even with a very strong direct signal, the MER would be zero and you'd decode nothing. On the other hand, a very weak signal may not be competing with any other co-channel signals or multipath and have a MER of 100. Hope that helps (Doug K4LY Allen, Inman, SC, Dec 27, *ibid.*)

#### INCENTIVE SPECTRUM AUCTION

You've heard of the "Incentive Spectrum Auction" the FCC is planning to bribe, er, I mean entice broadcasters to give up their lucrative broadcast licenses so the FCC can sell that spectrum (that it doesn't own!) to AT&T and Verizon so they can provide digital video streaming, right? Well ---

Larry Russell points out the future of "Q-TV" from Delta College (WDCQ RF 15/PSIP 19) is being debated. See [THIS link](http://www.mlive.com/news/bay-city/index.ssf/2015/12/delta_college_public_tv_spectr.html) for details.  
[http://www.mlive.com/news/bay-city/index.ssf/2015/12/delta\\_college\\_public\\_tv\\_spectr.html](http://www.mlive.com/news/bay-city/index.ssf/2015/12/delta_college_public_tv_spectr.html)

At the same time, WKAR from East Lansing/MSU (RF 40/PSIP 23) is having the same debate in a slightly different forum according to an email I just received. See [THIS link](http://wkar.org/post/pres-simon-future-wkar-tv-signal-be-determined-2016) for details on that station.  
<http://wkar.org/post/pres-simon-future-wkar-tv-signal-be-determined-2016>

Rumour is that CMU is having the same debate, but we don't have a link for them, and we haven't heard anything about the Detroit or West Michigan PBS stations yet. --- Anyone?

The 'experts' had predicted that the non-commercial stations would be

the ones that showed the most interest to being bribed, er 'selling' their broadcast spectrum to the FCC, and apparently they were right. Now follow me here, because this gets complicated. (And where is the ACLU filing suit to stop this already!? They NEED to before it is too late!)

The FCC will take this 'spectrum' they are "buying" from broadcasters -- that neither the stations nor the FCC owned in the first place mind you -- and "sell" it to one of the several "communications" companies who donate lots of money to politicians and pay expensive lobbyists (but almost no federal taxes I might add).

These companies will then take something that was \*previously\* owned by the public (the radio spectrum) and which was supposed to be administered for the public good by the FCC and, with the FCC gleefully issuing its imprimatur, (and charging them for that approval) sell it BACK to members of the public (remember, the public owned it in the first place!) in the form of "wireless data services" that will allow these sheep -- er, people to receive video when they want it --- on spectrum previously used to provide video for people to watch when they wanted to for free. And this is 'progress' and working to get the public 'what it wants'. Clearly.

I am getting too old for this. Sounds like 'special interests' bribing government to get a license to print money and pick the pocket of the public to ME, but then, I've never been accused of being a 'shrinking violet' when I see people acting badly and stealing from the public. Sigh. -kvz (Kenneth Vito Zichi, MI, MARE Tipsheet Dec 25 via DXLD)

BLACK & WHITE TVS STILL IN 9000+ UK HOMES

<http://advanced-television.com/2015/12/29/black-white-tvs-still-in-9000-uk-homes/>  
Presumably analog(ue) sets with digital converters ...  
(Kim Elliott, dxldyg via DXLD)

I suspect this must read: 9000+ homes claim that they still use B&W sets, for the reason mentioned in the article. And nobody dares to voice this suspicion officially.

When have the last full-size B&W TV sets, i.e. other than portable dwarfs, been offered in western Europe? In East Germany they disappeared in spring 1990, and they had been made until then only because many people simply could not afford colour sets which cost the equivalent of about 2000 Euro of current spending power.

Some of these last generation B&W TV sets could still be found in little used rooms in recent years, stuffed away, not connected to anything, away from cable nets and without any DVB boxes around, thus

with no signal source at hand anyway (Kai Ludwig, Germany, ibid.)

Kai, I agree with you. These TV sets - if they exist at all - aren't used often. Maybe they are in a countryside cottage where owners spend 1-2 days in a year as a vacation. Another possibility is that collectors keep them as a relic because of their aesthetic value or the users are connected mentally to the TV sets e.g. "it served me in my childhood some years ago". They hardly usable today even with set-top boxes and this is not only true in the UK but here in Hungary, a less wealthy part of Europe too (Tibor Gaal, ibid.)

#### RADIO EQUIPMENT FORUM

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#### SONY AN-LP1 ACTIVE LOOP ANTENNA and other loops

Greetings From Nevada! The holidays here were somewhat fruitful in that my wife got me a Sony AN-LP1 Active Loop antenna (apparently still available on Amazon Prime for a decent price, who knew!). It's been interesting to do side-by-side tests with the cheapie Kaito Loop.

I also bought a couple of DEGEN 31MS active loops direct from China on Ebay for less than 20\$ apiece purely for experimentation (as they are identical to the cheapie Kaito Loop that I have been using for over a year). You get what you pay for, of course (especially on Ebay), as one of the units was not working, but easily repaired once I took it apart (which I was planning to do anyway) and found a couple of solder joints that weren't soldered at all on the main pot on the little controller box.

So now (if you can picture this) I essentially have a small active loop antenna in every window of the shack room (two windows face west - of which can at least glimpse the western horizon; one window faces south - that looks straight at another apartment building) and a "Magic Wand" antenna hanging high on the western wall between the two windows. Not to mention the wire threading through the south window that connects to a rain gutter high on the south side of the building. So now I've got some testing to do (which should keep me busy for a while).

My first curiosity was the comparison of Sony active MagLoop with the now-very-familiar cheapie Kaito. So I went about comparing signals with both on various bands. The Sony has some sort of optional RFI filter of which I found to be ineffective in reducing noise, in fact on the higher bands (25m and above) it seemed to actually raise the noise floor a bit so I removed it for the comparison (maybe my RFI problems aren't as bad as I'd feared?).

So 49m and below it was pretty much a toss up between the Sony and the Kaito. The Sony seemed to have a higher noise floor overall, but signals were just as readable, so I'd guess it just has a little higher gain amplifier (on these bands). Below 60m are about the only bands where I might use the Rain Gutter antenna any more; the noise is horrible on on all the antennas here in my ground floor apartment and the gutter seems to get the most signal above that noise generally (but not always, of course).

On 41m the Kaito still beats out everything else I have, even the more expensive Sony. Lower noise and greater S/N ratio makes the weak signals more readable. On 31m it was another toss-up but the Sony seemed to edge-out the Kaito, and although it still seemed a little noisier, the singals seemed slightly stronger and clearer. 25m and above, the Magic Wand combined with the MFJ-1020C preselector still seems to be unbeatable with the Kaito coming in second, the Sony third. But as I keep changing antennas to make signals more readable I'm sure I'll develop a favorite antenna for each band. I'm also noticing differences between the Kaito facing West (Probably directed N/S) and a DEGEN 31MS (exact same as the Kaito KA33) facing South (Probably directed E/W) so I will continue to tinker with all of these. Where will all this lead? Well, I think I see a Wellbrook Loop in my future. 73s (Rodney Johnson, NV, <http://swldx.tumblr.com/dxldyg> via DX LISTENING DIGEST)

#### AM BROADCASTERS AFFECTED BY RFI ISSUES

From Radio World:

AFCCE Symposium Examines AM Broadcast Band Woes. AM broadcasters are calling upon the FCC to help reduce man-made RFI, which is negatively impacting their businesses.

<http://www.radioworld.com/article/afcce-symposium-examines-am-broadcast-band-woes/273098>

Pressure like this can only help. But the reality is that electronics manufacturers, power companies, and similar industries all employ highly-paid lobbyists making regulation and oversight difficult for the FCC to pursue.

DXing from my neighborhood has become so bad that I'm seriously considering portable operation using SDR's to record TOH's in radio-quiet locations as the only viable means of continuing in the hobby. RFI comes from every house, including my own despite intensive efforts to reduce or eliminate it. -- 73, (Les Rayburn, N1LF, Maylene, AL EM63, Dec 30, NRC-AM via DXLD)

#### PROPAGATION



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:Product: Weekly Highlights and Forecasts  
:Issued: 2015 Dec 28 0317 UTC  
# Prepared by the US Dept. of Commerce, NOAA, Space Weather Prediction Center  
# Product description and SWPC contact on the Web  
# <http://www.swpc.noaa.gov/weekly.html>  
#  
# Weekly Highlights and Forecasts  
#  
Highlights of Solar and Geomagnetic Activity 21 - 27 December 2015

Solar activity ranged from low to moderate levels (R1-Minor) with low activity observed on 25, 26, and 27 Dec, and moderate activity observed on 21, 22, 23, and 24 Dec. The majority of the flare activity occurred from Regions 2472 and 2473. Region 2472 (N04, L=331, class/area Dai/170 on 23 Dec) produced an M2/Sf at 21/0103 UTC and an M1/1n at 21/1014 UTC before decaying. Region 2473 (S22, L=331, class/area Fkc/590 on 26 Dec), the largest region on the disk, produced an M1/Sf at 22/0341 UTC, an M4/1f at 23/0040 UTC, and an M1 at 24/0212 UTC. Multiple eruptions were observed in coronagraph imagery, but all were directed off the east limb and none were geoeffective.

No proton events were observed at geosynchronous orbit. The greater than 2 MeV electron flux at geosynchronous orbit was at normal to high levels through the entire week 21 December - 27 December.

Geomagnetic field activity reached G1 (Minor) to G2 (Moderate) storm levels early on 21 Dec due to effects from a CME that erupted on 16 Dec. G2 storm conditions were observed from 21/0000-0600 UTC, with G1 storm conditions occurring in the 21/0600-0900 UTC synoptic period. Solar wind parameters at the ACE spacecraft were enhanced with Bt reaching as high as 18 nT and prolonged periods of southward magnetic field (-Bz). An isolated period of active conditions was observed early on 22 Dec due to lingering CME effects. Active conditions occurred late on 23 Dec due to weak substorming. Quiet to unsettled conditions were observed on 24, 25, and 27 Dec. The geomagnetic field reached G1 (Minor) storm conditions late on 26 Dec (26/2100-2359 UTC) due to a negative polarity coronal hole high speed stream (CH HSS).

FORECAST OF SOLAR AND GEOMAGNETIC ACTIVITY 28 DEC 2015 - 23 JAN 2016

Solar activity is expected to be at low to moderate levels (R1-Minor) throughout the period. Moderate activity is likely through 03 Jan as Regions 2472 (N04, L=329) and 2473 (S22, L=332)

rotate off the disk. Low activity levels are expected on 04-23 Jan with moderate activity possible on 15-23 Jan as Regions 2472 and 2473 rotate back onto the visible side of the disk.

No proton events are expected at geosynchronous orbit.

The greater than 2 MeV electron flux at geosynchronous orbit is expected to be at moderate to high levels on 28 Dec - 12 Jan in response to coronal hole high speed stream (CH HSS) effects. Normal to moderate levels are expected on 13-23 Jan.

Geomagnetic field activity is expected to be at active levels on 01, 03 Jan with G1 (Minor) storm conditions on 02 Jan due to a positive polarity CH HSS. G1 storm conditions are likely again on 06 Jan with active levels following on 07 Jan due to a positive polarity CH HSS. 10 and 11 Jan are likely to see G1 storm and active conditions, respectively due to a negative polarity CH HSS. Generally quiet to unsettled conditions are expected from 13-23 Jan.

:Product: 27-day Space Weather Outlook Table 27D0.txt

:Issued: 2015 Dec 28 0317 UTC

# Prepared by the US Dept. of Commerce, NOAA, Space Weather Prediction Center

# Product description and SWPC contact on the Web

# <http://www.swpc.noaa.gov/wwire.html>

#

# 27-day Space Weather Outlook Table

# Issued 2015-12-28

#

| # UTC       | Radio Flux | Planetary | Largest  |
|-------------|------------|-----------|----------|
| # Date      | 10.7 cm    | A Index   | Kp Index |
| 2015 Dec 28 | 110        | 12        | 3        |
| 2015 Dec 29 | 110        | 10        | 3        |
| 2015 Dec 30 | 110        | 10        | 3        |
| 2015 Dec 31 | 115        | 8         | 3        |
| 2016 Jan 01 | 115        | 15        | 4        |
| 2016 Jan 02 | 115        | 25        | 5        |
| 2016 Jan 03 | 110        | 18        | 4        |
| 2016 Jan 04 | 105        | 12        | 3        |
| 2016 Jan 05 | 105        | 8         | 3        |
| 2016 Jan 06 | 105        | 20        | 5        |
| 2016 Jan 07 | 110        | 18        | 4        |
| 2016 Jan 08 | 110        | 12        | 4        |
| 2016 Jan 09 | 110        | 10        | 3        |
| 2016 Jan 10 | 110        | 20        | 5        |
| 2016 Jan 11 | 110        | 18        | 4        |
| 2016 Jan 12 | 110        | 10        | 3        |
| 2016 Jan 13 | 105        | 5         | 2        |

|             |     |    |   |
|-------------|-----|----|---|
| 2016 Jan 14 | 105 | 5  | 2 |
| 2016 Jan 15 | 110 | 5  | 2 |
| 2016 Jan 16 | 115 | 5  | 2 |
| 2016 Jan 17 | 115 | 5  | 2 |
| 2016 Jan 18 | 115 | 5  | 2 |
| 2016 Jan 19 | 115 | 5  | 2 |
| 2016 Jan 20 | 115 | 5  | 2 |
| 2016 Jan 21 | 110 | 10 | 3 |
| 2016 Jan 22 | 110 | 15 | 3 |
| 2016 Jan 23 | 110 | 10 | 3 |

(SWPC via WORLD OF RADIO 1806, DXLD)

#### BIG SUNSPOT ERUPTS

<http://www.spaceweather.com/>

December 30, 2015

SUNSPOT ERUPTS, HURLS CME TOWARD EARTH: After several days of pent-up quiet, big sunspot AR2473 erupted on Dec. 28th (12:49 UT), producing a slow but powerful M1.9-class solar flare. NASA's Solar Dynamics Observatory recorded the blast's extreme ultraviolet glow:

For more than an hour, UV radiation from the flare bathed the top of Earth's atmosphere, ionizing atoms and molecules. This, in turn, disrupted the normal propagation of shortwave radio signals on the dayside of our planet. A NOAA blackout map shows the affected area. Ham radio operators, mariners and aviators in South America, Africa and the south Atlantic Ocean may have noticed fades and blackouts of transmissions below 20 MHz.

The slow explosion also produced a coronal mass ejection (CME). Images from the Solar and Heliospheric Observatory (SOHO) show a ragged, full-halo CME heading almost directly toward Earth:

NOAA analysts have modeled this CME, and they say it could reach Earth as early as Dec. 30th, with a 60% chance of polar geomagnetic storms when the CME arrives. Maximum storm levels are expected to be in the range G1 to G2.

Sunspot AR2473 has an unstable 'beta-delta' magnetic field that could explode again in the hours ahead. NOAA forecasters estimate a 50% chance of additional M-class flares and a 10% chance of X-flares on Dec. 29th. Posted by: (Mike Terry, dxldyg via DXLD) ###